MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Orders have been given that all defences are to be brought to the highest state of anti-invasion efficiency by 1/9.

M.T.B.5 was destroyed, apparently by petrol explosion, at Dover today. The explosion damaged M.T.B . 69 and H.S.L. 122.

British Air Operations.

2 Stirlings attacked Borkum Seaplane Base today.

Enemy Air Operations.

Attacks on East Coast shipping.

A/S Trawler EVERTON was attacked at 0052 off Spurn Point; no details are known.

Convoy F.N.87 was attacked twice late tonight off Sheringham and S.S. HOMEFIRE was sunk.

Attacks in Western Approaches.

Owing to indications of increasing F.W. activity from France, Fighter Catapult ships ARIGUANI and MAPLIN are to be operated with O.B., O.G., H.G., and S.L. convoys on southern routes until further orders.

Convoy O.G.66 was unsuccessfully attacked in the Western Approaches by 2 or possibly 3 F.W. at 1055B. Parachute mines were reported dropped ahead of the convoy. One of the enemy aircraft was destroyed by the fire of SCARBOROUGH and ships in convoy.

O.B.V. MALVERNIAN was attacked and set on fire in 47° 37' N. 19° 7' W. by an aircraft which is reported to have used the correct identification letters.

During an air raid on Bristol Channel ports in the early hours of this morning S.S. JAMAICA PLANTER and HIGHWOOD were damaged in the docks at Barry. (See also Mining.)

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SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

East Coast. Part of the Firth of Forth was closed from 1644 to 2306. Mines were detonated off Hartlepool.

Thames Estuary. M/S Drifter DEVON COUNTY was sunk by mine this morning in the Thames Estuary.

Bristol Channel. Two, mines fell in the docks at Barry in the early hours of today. Owing to suspected minelaying Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, Barry and Swansea were closed at 0241B. With the exception of Newport these ports were reopened at 1251B. Newport was reopened with restrictions at 1616B.

Hebrides. Trawler STRATHGAIRN hauled a mine in her trawl at 0900 today 20 miles S.W. of Barra Head. The mine exploded and sank the vessel.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Railway". F.O. Force H. in RENOWN with ARK ROYAL, FURIOUS, HERMIONE and 7 destroyers returned to Gibraltar at 0730A today from flying Hurricanes to Malta.

Raider Search. It is thought there may be an enemy surface raider or supply ship in the area 28° N. to 31° N. 31° W. to 34' W. All available destroyers (5) left Gibraltar this afternoon to escort convoy O.G.66 to Gibraltar. HERMIONE left this evening to patrol. Air search was made and Catalina aircraft will patrol tomorrow.

South Atlantic.

D'ENTRE-CASTEAUX intercepted. DUNEDIN today intercepted Vichy French S.S. D'ENTRECASTEAUX from Indo-China to Castille in 10° 25' S. 17° 24' E. and is sending her under armed guard to Simonstown.

Sailing of German ships. It is reported today that on 27/6 the following enemy ships sailed; from Rio de Janeiro FRANKFURT, HERMES; from Santos NATAL; from Pernambuco BUTTERFLY.

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War Diary. 1.7.1941. Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert. About 35 aircraft bombed Tobruk today whilst supply ships were unloading. Minor damage was caused to jetties and slight damage to S.S. MIRANDA. Unloading was not interferred with.

Alexandria. There was an air raid from 0300 to 0445 by about 16 aircraft, bombs and mines being dropped over a wide area of land and sea. Civilian damage only was caused.

Palestine and Syria. 6 Wellingtons last night bombed shipping and docks at Beirut. A possible hit was obtained on a ship alongside a mole.

Yugoslav. M.T.B's, KAJMAKAIAN and DURMITOR are being sent to Haifa to operate off the Syrian coast under C.S.15.

U-Boat Campaign.

O.B. 340. BULLDOG, escorting O.B.340 attacked a submarine early this morning in 59° 26' N. 10° 5' W. There was no observed result.

O.B. 339. BITTERSWEET, escorting O.B.339 attacked a submarine contact in the early hours of today 100 miles south of Iceland (c), causing a large oil patch on the surface.

S/M hunts. Aircraft hunted for U.boats during almost the entire day up to 150 miles west and 120 miles south of Ushant. One submarine was attacked, at 1710 210 miles west of Lorient, but results are not known.

Aircraft also hunted for U.boats all day 160 miles W.N.W. of Cape Wrath.

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Iceland (c). Communications and A/C organisation.

C. in C.H.F. 569/H.F.1. of 10 May just received. Following are remarks. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1157/30) See Lion Copy.

Invasion Defences.

All defences are to be brought to the highest state of anti-invasion efficiency by 1/9. In the meanwhile vigilance should in no way be relaxed. (V.C.N.S. 1135B/1 to C's. in C, Home).

Milford Haven. A/A Gun Defences.

Brigadier 61 A.A. Brigade informed me today that the 4 Bofors Guns sited against low flying Enemy Aircraft in the Haven only have temporary role and may be removed at any moment. These guns have been marked deterrent to Enemy and their removal would leave Haven undefended against low flying planes. It is strongly represented that A.A. Sub Committee be asked to allocate 8 Bofors Guns permanently for this object. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1234B/1).

Movements.

FURIOUS.

Your 1249/20/6. Are there any urgent defects to be carried out during this period? Is docking required? (A.C.N.S.H. 1040B/1 to FURIOUS).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

A.M. 1213B/27/6, A.M. 1036B/1.
As sailing of FURIOUS and transports has been delayed, these units will not R/V with ROYAL SOVEREIGN. C. in C. W.A. is now requested to arrange for ROYAL SOVEREIGN'S inward A/S escort only to the Clyde. (A.C.N.S. H. 1231B/1).

AELYBRYN.

Anticipate AELYBRYN will be ready for towing home about 8/7. Propose to use TENACITY and escoft as far as Stornoway with two of 10th A/S group. To what port should she be sent. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1727Z/1).

MAORI. CORINTHIAN.

On reaching lat. 052° 00' N. alter course to pass through Q 048° N. 029° W. thence towards R 055° N. 030° W. A further signal will be made. (C. in C. W.A. 1928/1 to MAORI).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

M.T.B. Operation. Two M.T.B's leave Dover at 2230 to operate off Berck sur Mer returning to Dover at 0445. Route via number 10 buoy each way. (V.A. Dover 1832B/1).

British Air Activity.

Bremen and Kiel attacked. 3 M/V's claimed as total losses. In daylight on 30/6 A/C attacked Bremen and Kiel and other targets in N.W. Germany.
-Off Nordeney a 6,000 ton vessel in a convoy of 15 escorted by three Naval Patrol vessels was hit between bridge and mainmast. A 3,000 ton vessel received direct hits and appeared to be down by the stern. A 500 ton trawler S.W. of the island was also hit. All three are claimed as total losses. (H.Q.B.C. 0053/1).

Patrols. A.C.O.S. 1110/29 and my 1232/26. VICTORIOUS exercising west of Orkneys tomorrow and it is essential that the area south of 59° 45' N. as far west as Cape Wrath should be clear of U-Boats. Request all available air patrols may be concentrate in this area throughout today, tonight, and tomorrow. (C. in C.H.F. 1204B/1 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Your 1204/1. One A/C with A.S.V. will commence patrol of following area at 1800/1 patrol being maintained continuously until last light/2 area between longtitude of C. Wrath and longtitue of Brimness being bounded on south by coast of Scotland and on north by parallel of 59° 45' N. In addition area will be swept by 3 Swordfish at first light/2. (C. in C. Rosyth 1648/1 to C. in C. H.F).
Patrol STAND now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1650/1).

Air-Sea Rescue procedure. Aircraft employed on Air Reserve duties whichhave sighted an aircraft or crew in the sea have been instructed to identify themselves to searching surface craft and guide them to the position in the following manner. Details. (D.S.D. 2001B/1. A Message Home 406AZ).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C. Even.	Fighters have been despatched to assist Convoy MISSION. (Rosyth 0028/1, 0821/1).
EVERTON.	Am being attacked by Aircraft in position 110° Spurn Point 10 miles. (EVERTON no T.O.O. Recd. 0058/1).
Unknown Ship.	De unknown station believed to be MAS at 0054 begins AAAA repeat ends. (Valentia 0134/1).
Convoy O.G.66.	Convoy attacked 2 or possibly 3 F.W. 200, at 10.55 B, no damage to ships, 2 casualties from machine gun fire in Carbreck. One aircraft still shadowing. Possible damage to one aircraft from convoy fire. (SCARBOROUGH 1100B/1).
MALVERNIAN (British, 3133 Tons) bombed.	Have picked up in 047° 07' (? North) 019° 20' W. one boat load of (? survivors) from MALVERNIAN bombed in 047° 37' N. 019° 7' W. Survivors report still afloat and burning and more survivors in the vicinity. Have instructed SARABANDE to search in this direction and rejoin convoy by dark. Reported aircraft used correct identification letters. (SCARBOROUGH 1850B/1).
Convoy F.N. 87.	Enemy bombing RADIO 53° 5' N. 1° 30' E. (LEEDS 2321/1).

Mining.

Bristol Channel.	Owing to suspected minelaying no ships are to enter or leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, Barry, or Swansea until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0241B/1). My 0241B/1. Normal traffic may now be resumed except that no ships may enter or leave Newport. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1231B/1). My 0241B/1. Ships may now enter and leave Newport They may not mine between Transporter Bridge and Mouth of River. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1616B/1).
Tyne to Flamborough.	Speeds between 10 and 25 knots are not to be used between Tyne and Flamborough Head. (C. in C. Rosyth 0808/1 to GOSSAMER).
Convoy F.N. 87.	Parachute Minesreported dropped ahead of Convoy at 1120B. (SCARBOROUGH 1100B/1);

/Barry.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

Barry. One Mine was dropped at 0215B/1 in Dock Area and exploded causing some damage to buildings. One Mine which did not explode was seen to fall in Number Two Basin.
Temporary restriction of movements in No. 2 Dock. Civilians, minor injuries. No naval casualty or damage. (N.O.I.C. Barry 1130B/1).

Hartlepool. One magnetic mine detonated by single trawler in 54° 41' 10" N. 01° 5' 51" W. at 0930/1.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1140/1).

Burnham. My 2030/30. Further search has now resulted in a complete mine parachute and cap being located in following position. (R.N.O. Burnham 1235/7).

Firth of Forth. Following is closed due to probable mine. 175 Q.Z.S. No. 1 to No. 9 Reflector buoys. Anticipated opening 2200. (C. in C. Rosyth 1644/1 and 1751/1). Cancel my 1644/1. (C. in C. Rosyth 2306/1).

Thames Estuary. 2 S.A. mines detonated on 30/6 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1700/1).

Operation QJ. (M/S Exercise off Aldeburgh) My 1136B/5/6. Request you will repeat operation Q.J. on 3/7. (C. in C. Nore 1720B/1).

ROYAL SCOT (Mined 10/6). From FRANKLIN.
(1) Wreck of ROYAL SCOT in 53° 30' 32" N. 0° 52' 53" E. Dangerous. (F.O. Humber 1951B/1).

Plymouth. A mine is suspected in position 234° from Breakwater Light 7.5 cables. (C. in C. Plymouth 2008/1 to COSSACK).

B.S.66. Departure HAMBLEDON and PLOVER at 2058. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2136B/1).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Eire Trawler D. 211.

S/S PHEMIUS reports Eire TrawlerD. 211 was observed in 58° 15' N. 6° W. at 1027/28/6 G.M.T. to be behaving in a suspicious manner. She closed on PHEMIUS and steamed on parallel course presumably wishing to establish her identity, she did not show any W/T equipment. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1225B/1).

Baltic.

Various items of intelligence relating to shipping. (N.A. Stockholm 1603/1). See Lion Copy.

LEIPZIG.
EMDEN.
2 S/Ms.

Photographs taken at 1315/1 Show LEIPZIG to have left Horten since 25/6/41 and to be now berthed in Oslo as on 20/6/41 at S. side of UTSTIKKER 1 in Bjorviken. EMDEN has left Oslo since 25/6/41 and is now lying in Horten in Berth occupied by LEIPZIG on that date. Also present in Horton one 750 ton and two 500 ton submarines. (P.R.U. Wick 1855/1).

Casualties and Defects.

M.T.B. 5.
M.T.B.69.
H.S.L.122

Explosion apparently of petrol occurred in Norwegian M.T.B. 5 in train ferry dock at 0830 today. Vessel is probably a total loss. Casualties M.T.B. 69 and H.S.L. 122 suffered hull damage and casualties. (V.A. Dover 1256B/1).

WOLVERINE.

Am proceeding Londonderry at 17 knots. Starboard condenser leaking. Request final destination if defect cannot be remedied there. (WOLVERINE 1759B/1).

Shipping and Convoys.

P.W. 1.
W.P. 1.

My 1806/26 and Admty. 1602/30. Intend to call next Convoy sailing from Portsmouth on 4/7 "P.W.1" and Convoy sailing from Bristol Channel ports on 3/7 "W.P. 1". (C. in C. Plymouth, 1321/1).

H.X. 132.

Congratulations on again bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your Convoy. (C. in C.W.A. 1922/1 to Vice Adm. F.M. Austin.).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

REPULSE.
RENOWN.

It is hoped that REPULSE will relieve RENOWN end of July when latter will refit in U.K. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0038B/1 to F.O. Force H.)

Gibraltar Evacuation.

Your 2337/28. My 1734/23 was made to obtain a ruling from which to calculate number of personnel to be left behind after evacuation has been completed. Considered that, as only limited services could be maintained under siege conditions, only sufficient personnel to man these services should be left. Request confirmation that it is your intention that whole personnel for maintaining normal services should be left behind. (F.O.C.N.A. 0914A/1 to Admty.)

Dispositions, possible raider.

All available destroyers to be sailed at best speed to join O.G.66 and escort to Gibraltar. S/M O.21 to leave H.G.66 forthwith and return to Gibraltar. FURIOUS, HERMIONE, CAMERONIA and SCYTHIA to be retained at Gibraltar until A/S escort can be provided. AZALEA and STELLA CARINA to remain with H.G.66 to limit of prudent endurance and then return to Gibraltar. (V.C.N.S. 1036B/1 to F.O. Force H., F.O.C.N.A.) Admty. 1035B/1 not to S.O. Force H.
HERMIONE to be sailed as soon as practicable to patrol Eastern extremity of J.3 and K.3. She is to leave this patrol after dark on 5th and return to Gibraltar. Possible quarries are :-
(i) Raider 16, photographs in W.I.R. 30/5.
(ii) Returning enemy M/V, possibly disguised as Dutch.
(iii) A possible German supply ship.
Request you will assist patrol with Catalina aircraft if practicable. (V.C.N.S. 1308B/1 to F.O.C.N.A. S.O. Force H.)
Departure FAULKNOR, FEARLESS, FORESTER, LEGION, LANCE routed direct to R/V with O.G.66 in accordance with Admty.1036B/1. LEGION and LANCE will pass through 043° 25' N. 019° 30' W. at 0700B/3 steering 05°. FAULKNOR, FEARLESS, FORESTER arrive in 043° 00' 019° 33' at 1700B/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1700B/1 to Admty.)
Departure HERMIONE in accordance with Admty. 1308B/1. Catalina A/C will be on patrol approx. between 40° N. and 41° N. on longitude 16° W. from dawn. (F.O.C.N.A. 2300A/1 to Admty.)

/ASPHODEL .....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

ASPHODEL. ASTER. FLEUR DE LYS. — Cancel A.T. 2340B/29. (D.O.D.(F) 1042B/1 to Consul, Ponta Delgada.)

MAURO CROCE. (Italian) — Left Barcelona 29/6 for Genoa. (F.O.C.N.A. 1106A/1 to S/M O.23)

O.G.66. — If convoy is attacked by U.Boat ships bound for South Atlantic and West Africa are to be dispersed. Ships bound for West Indies are to remain in company until reaching 42° N. unless it becomes necessary to disperse the whole convoy. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1116B/1 to SCARBOROUGH.) You have been reported by aircraft. U/B's are in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 1154B/1 to SCARBOROUGH)

Enemy Unit. — Possible there is an enemy surface raider or supply ship in area 028° N. to 031° N. 031° W. to 034° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1154A/1 to N.A. Stn.)

O.21. — Leave convoy for Gibraltar forthwith (route). Report P.C. and S. when 100 miles clear of convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 1406A/1 to O.21.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — Your 1036B/1 and C. in C.W.As. 1757B/?30. Request date of R/V for ROYAL SOVEREIGN be amended to 13/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 1716A/1 to Admty.)

Genoa sailings. — Your 2240C/26. Between 20 and 27/6 at least 5 neutral and 1 Italian merchant vessels left Genoa, the former arriving at Gibraltar. (V.A.C.N.A. 1748A/1 to C. in C. Med.)

O.G.66 Escort. — FANDANGO, MORRIS DANCE, SARABANDE CORDELA NORSE are to remain with O.G.66 as long as possible breaking off as necessary to coal at Gibraltar not Fayal Azores. (C. in C.W.A. 1813B/1 to SCARBOROUGH.)
My 1749B/26/6. Trawlers have been ordered to proceed to Gibraltar instead of Fayal, if fuel permits. (D.O.D.(F) 1841B/1 to Consul, Ponta Delgada)

LUCY ESSBERGER. (German) — Was discharging at Cadiz on 25/6. (D.S.665)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY. (German) HIMALAYA. (Italian) — NORDERNEY at Para has raised steam and tried engines. HIMALAYA at Rio de Janeiro loading slowly and will not be fully loaded before 1/7. (S.O.(1) Montevideo 0032Z/1, S.O.I. Freetown, 0846N/1 to Admty.)

QUEEN VICTORIA. — Overdue Shipping, my 0931/25, arrived Cape Town. (S.O.I. Cape Town 0944B/1)

Sailing of enemy ships. — Following ships have sailed on 27/6 from Rio de Janeiro:- German FRANKFURT and HERMES from Santos German NATAL. From Pernambuco Italian BUTTERFLY. Descriptions. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1009Q/1 to SURCOUF.)

KINGSTON HILL. — Overdue shipping KINGSTON HILL departure St. Vincent C.V. on 4/6 for Capetown not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1225B/1 to Admty. etc.)

LIKOMBA. (German) — German seagoing launch LIKOMBA 200 tons gross 96 tons nett at Fernando Po since commencement of war reported ready to leave instantly. Thought to be fuel on board for 800 miles. Received 2 tons gas engine fuel on 26/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1231N/1 to DRAGON, MILFORD.)

Areas P. R. — 1, 2. Dividing line. (C. in C.S.A. 1248N/1 to S.A. Stn.)

PETUNIA. ANSELM. — PETUNIA is to proceed in company with STARWORT and LAVENDER and provide additional escort for ANSELM to Freetown. C. in C. S.A. is requested to sail PETUNIA to U.K. with next convenient convoy. (C. in C.W.A. 1436B/1 to PETUNIA.)

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. — Engines defective. Considered if to continue to operate as A.M.C. she should have 10 days refit Harland and Wolff, Belfast, who built engines, after every alternate convoy escort duty, but better plan would be to replace her by another. (C. in C.S.A. 1715N/1 to Admty.)

Vichy Ships. — Instructions re firmness in intercepting and boarding. (C. in C.S.A. 2015N/1 to S.A. Stn.) See Lion Copy.

/D'ENTRECASTEAUX ...

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

D'ENTRE-CASTEAUX intercepted.	Vichy French ship D'ENTRECASTEAUX from Indo China to Castille intercepted in 010° 25' S. 017° 24' W. Crew 50, passengers 8, general cargo. W/T transmission attempted was swamped. No attempt at scuttling. Guard and navigating party placed on board. Ship has barely sufficient coal to reach Simonstown. Propose sending her direct there unescorted with instructions call for coal Walvis Bay if essential. Her estimated speed 8 knots. Am remaining in company pending your concurrence. (DUNEDIN, 2108Z/1 to C. in C.S.A.)
BUTTERFLY. XXIV MAGGIO. (Italian)	Reported clearing from Pernambuco for Bremen via Buenos Aires. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro. 21462/1.)

Mediterranean.

Russia.	Liaison Mission. Instructions. (V.C.N.S.0009B/1 to C. in C's Med. etc.) See Mediterranean Volume.)
TORCELLO. (Italian)	Passed Istanbul 1020 G.M.T./30 for Aegean with 5000 tons benzine. (Istanbul 18140/1) See also 1425/1.
STROMBO. (Italian)	(Damaged by torpedo on 3/6. Reported to be sailing on 4/7 for Italy from Istanbul. (D.S. 665)
PARRAMATTA.	The ship handling and shooting of PARAMATTA must have been very good when picking up survivors of AUCKLAND as all attacks were avoided and three aircraft shot down. (1st S.L. 0102B/1 to C. in C. Med.)
M.T.B's.	For Haifa. Instructions as to use. (C. in C. Med. 1051C/1 to R.A. 15 C.S.) See Mediterranean Volume.
Alexandria Raid.	Air raid 0300 to 0445, about 16 planes. Bombs and mines over wide area of land and sea. Only civilian damage. (R.A. Alexandria 1055/1)

/"Glen" .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

"Glen" Ships. Majority of special service troops which were employed with "Glen" ships are being disbanded on completion of their voluntary engagement and are returning to their own units. Future policy will be to train regular units when available in combined operations. For this purpose one "Glen" ship will be based at Kabret the other will be based North of the Suez Canal where she will be immediately available for any troop carrying operations. (C. in C. Med. 1103C/1 to Admty.)

Orders to S/Ms. At 2100B I proceed as follows. UNION UNIQUE and UPRIGHT leave patrol for Malta (arrangements). From 0001B/2 UPHOLDER patrol between C15° 45' and 016° 10' north of 037° 30' and URGE west of 015° 45' and north of 037° 00'. THRASHER as ordered by Capt. (S) I. S/Ms encountered are not to be attacked. (Cdr.S.1. 1120B/1 to S/Ms Malta Force, THRASHER.)

Enemy Convoy. P.C. and S. of enemy M/Cs. 4 (?escorting vessels) 38.04 N. 12.58 E. 030° 12 knots. (A/C Duty T. 1250Z/1 to Hal Far.)

TORCELLO. (Italian) Loaded tanker (description reported) (?at sea) Istanbul for Aegean 1320C/30. Proceed to patrol Zea Channel from 0400 to dark 2nd returning to previous patrol to comply with my 1521C/28 by dawn 3rd. (Capt.S.1. 1425C/1 to TORBAY)

RAMB IV. Your 1938/22. A public declaration about RAMB IV will be made on 2/7 and Italian Gov. informed simultaneously. The declaration, while not betraying our intention to detain further hospital ships, does not commit us to regard detention of RAMB IV as full reparation for damage done by enemy aircraft. (Head of M. 1429B/1 to C. in C. Med.)

C.S.R. Up to 1600 hours 1/7. No enemy activity. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1700/1)

"Sink at Sight" Zone. To be declared in N. Mediterranean if general hostilities break out with Vichy. (Head of M. 1730B/1 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

/Enemy .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Convoy. — P.C. and S. of 6 enemy M/Vs and 6 enemy destroyers are 36.30 N. 11.42 E. 180° 12 knots. (A/C Duty F. 1740/1 to Hal Far.) Following received. Position of enemy 36.28 N. 11.46 E. (A/C Duty F. 1745/1)

PERSEUS. TRIUMPH. TORBAY. — Cancel my 1521C/28. Assume patrol as follows. PERSEUS off Cape Malea as in my 1455C/24. TRIUMPH in Gulf of Sirte as ordered in memo. to S.O's 23 routed through Kithera Channel and 032° 50' 020° 00'. TORBAY through Zea Channel to area E. 037° 32' 024° 00' - 000° - 65 - 95. (Capt. S.1. 1755C/1 to S/M's concerned.)

THRASHER. — Leave patrol forthwith and proceed (route) to arrive Alexandria sanctuary 0445C/9. Object of your route is to intercept shipping between Aegean and Italy. PERSEUS is in area East of Kithera Island. (Capt. S.1. 1839C/1 to THRASHER.)

Yugoslav M.T.B.'s. — C. in C. Med's 1510C/30 (N.T. in W.R.) Propose To sail Yugoslav M.T.B's. DURMITOR and KAJMAKCALAN at 0700C/2 (route) to arrive at Haifa 1300/C/3. (Capt. S.1. 2025C/1 to N.O.I.C. Alexandria.

Beirut bombed. — Prelim. op. summary No.15 night 30/1. 6 Wellingtons bombed shipping and docks Beirut. Hits on main docks and possible hit on ship alongside Northern Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 2053/1)

SAINT DIDIER. OUED TAILQUEM. — French cargo ships 2800 and 1400 tons respectively, reported proceeding from Salonika to Tripoli (Syria). First sailed 30/6 second due to leave 1/7. Ships (? will not) show full markings but will fly Turkish flag when East of Castel Rosso. These ships are to be sunk. (Capt. S.1. 2149C/1 to Greek S/M NEREUS)

/SAINT .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

SAINT DIDIER.
CHATEAU YQUEM.
THEOPHILE GAUTIER.

Report indicates Vichy freighters SAINT DIDIER and CHATEAU YQUEM left Salonika at 24 hour intervals commencing 30/6. Ships expected making for Tripoli speed of advance not exceeding 12 knots and would probably hug Turkish coast and fly Turkish colours effectively. Further reports state Vichy ship THEOPHILE GAUTIER 12½ knots was loading at Salonika on 26th. Request maximum air R/C commencing dawn/2 N.W. and S. of Cyprus and on Syrian coast description locating these ships. 815, 826 and 829 squadron aircraft to be ready to send striking force from Cyprus to intercept. (C. in C. Med. 2311C/1 to C.S. 15.)
French THEOPHILE GAUTIER reported at Salonika 26/6 loading German personnel and equipment destined for Syria. (Capt. S.I. 2345C/1 to Greek S/M NEREUS.)

Situation Report 75.

1. Western Desert. Heavy dive bombing raids today First on Tobruk where supply ships now unloading. FLAMINGO towing CRICKET towards Alexandria, no report of air attack. R.A.F. report shooting down nine enemy aircraft and damaging others in air attacks on FLAMINGO and CRICKET 30/6.
2. My 2315C/29 para. 2. DEFENDER sighted U.Boat 2042/29 at close range when approaching WATERHEN to take her in tow.. DEFENDER opened fire and may have scored hits before submarine crashed dived. Two subsequent loud explosions indicate probability U.Boat destroyed 32° 19' N. 25° 15'E.
3. Greek AVEROFF, HIPH ALSTOS, KATSONIS, SPHENDONI have sailed from Alexandria for Suez.
4. Alexandria. Further aid raid 0300 to 0445/30, minor damage only. (C. in C. Med. 2245C/1 to Admty.)

East Indies.

Raider Hunting.

Summary of lessons from CORNWALL search and destruction of raider 33. (C. in C.E.I. 07002/30 to E.I. Sth.) See Lion Copy.

China.

N.E.I. Navy Exchanges of Visits.

Your 0245/19 approved.
(V.C.N.S. 1710B/1 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

FORMIDABLE. FORMIDABLE has been assigned to Navy Yard Norfolk, Va. (B.A.R.M. 0045/1 to Admty.)

T.C. Convoy. Your 1904/27. Suggest possible to accommodate the 400 Technicians in proposed convoy referred to in my 1226/29. (D.S.T. 0452B/1 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

REVENGE. RAMILLIES. MALAYA. Admty. 1932B/30. Having in mind desirability of REVENGE and RAMILLIES exchanging duties at reasonable intervals intend REVENGE to visit Bermuda before MALAYA, thus being available to proceed to Iceland with T.C.12 or at other convenient opportunity. Not known whether Admiralty intend to use MALAYA to escort T.C.12 but it would be a great convenience if MALAYA could call at Halifax on passage to U.K. to embark passengers and important stores. (B.S.3 0837/1)

Fuelling at Sea. Your 1915/29/4. DESPATCH reports most favourable area for fuelling at sea now in vicinity (?032°) N. 040° W. (C. in C. A.W.I. 10010/1)

Sailing of enemy ships. See South Atlantic. (C. in C. A.W.I. 10090/1 to SURCOUF.)

Finnish Seamen. Your 1138/28. Undesirable to take action against Finns. Consul's Norwegian Masters and if any particular individuals are considered to be a danger to the ships, Masters should approach local police. (Head of M. 1428B/1 to N.C.S.O. Curacoa.)

BUXTON. Admty. 1915B/25/6. Expect BUXTON could be made available for refit any any time after middle of July. (R.A.3. 1626P/1 to B.A.R.M.)

NEWCASTLE. NEWCASTLE can be accepted at Boston Navy Yard. (B.A.R.M. 2105/1 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

Free French Call Signs. New Caledonian Free French Naval Authorities request secret call signs for local Free French Merchant Ships engaged in overseas trade. Request policy. (A.C.N.B. 1839Z/1 to Admty.)

New Zealand.

Personnel in unescorted ships. Would be glad of Admiralty's guidance in respect of application of restrictions to ships from N.Z. to U.K. via Panama which proceed unescorted beyond about 70° W. (N.Z.N.B. 1651M/1 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.7.1941
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Reported.

0024. By D/F at 0024 G.M.T. U.Boat within 40 miles of 56° 45' N., 22° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0309B/1.)

2008/30.
1951/30. Following is correct version of my 2327/30. At 2008Z/30. German U-Boat vicinity 035° N., 016° W., At 1951Z/30 U-boat approx. 225° Cape Finisterre 120.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0403A/1 to N.A. Stn.)

30/6. Received from OPNAV . S.S. LOSMAR American en route Suez from New York approached by an unidentified S/M which did not attack on 30/6 in 11° 18' W., 19° 55' S., at approx., 4½ GCT (A.L.U. S.N.A.0925/1, to Admty.)
Estimated U/B dispositions. (28 fixes, all German.)
(D.D.I.C. 1502B/1.)

1515/28. Jacksonville reports U.S. ALASKAN sighted submarine 1515/28 26.35 N., 76.39W.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1643Z/1, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

1912. At 1912 G.M.T. German U-Boat bearing 272° Class 2 from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2037/1, 2158A/1 to C.21.)

1827. By D/F at 1827/1 G.M.T. position of Italian U/Boat was within 50 miles of 44° 00' N., 11° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 2104B/1., F.O.C.N.A. 2139A/1 to N.A. Stn., 2158A/1 to C.21.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1. 7. 1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Attacked.

29/6. Congratulate 8th Escort Group on destruction of a German U-boat, on 29/6.
(1st. S.L. 0101B/1 to S.O. 8 E.G.)

By BULLDOG. My 0155/1 (N.T. in W.D.) Submarine diving am attacking.
(BULLDOG, 0200A/1, to C. in C. W.A.)
Good attack made at 0315B in 059° 26' N., 010° 05' W but contact never regained. Searched with CARNATION till 0630B. Am rejoining convoy and leaving CARNATION in vicinity till aircraft arrive, then ordered to rejoin me.
(BULLDOG, 0635B/1, to C. in C. W.A.)

By BITTERSWEET. BITTERSWEET attacked S/M contact at 0230B. 061° 25' N., 019° 17' W. Result large oil patch.
(BROADWATER, 0720B/1, to Admty., etc.)

By NASTURTIUM 19/6. C.A.F.O. 834/41/. (A) NASTURTIUM (B) 2010/19 (C) 059° 34' N., 014° 23' W., (D)7(E) 2200.
(NASTURTIUM 1507/1, to C. in C. W.A.)

By A/C. 1709/30. Form Blue Strip Report.
Beaufort R/217 at 1709/30/6 on anti U/B patrol on course 263 at 1000 ft. sighted U/Boat on surface in position 47.45 N., 8.48 W., on on CO 090/12 KTS 2 miles away on port beam. As A/C turned S/M began crash dive and only stern and tip of conning tower was above surface when bombs released from 300 ft. from A/C attacking in moderate dive. Bombs seen to burst in close stick 40 yards ahead of swirl Est. 40 ft. from Bow. Pilot repeated attack from same direction 30-40 seconds later releasing 4 depth charges all were seen to burst on Est. position of U/Boat, nearest 60 yards dead ahead of swirl remainder at 30 foot intervals. A/C remained in vicinity for 10 mins. but no visible results observed. U/Boat ocean going type resembling U/37.
(A.C.H.Q., Plymouth, 1603/1, to H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands.

M.T.B. Operation

Two M.T.B.'s from Dover operated last night off Berck sur Mer.

British Air Operations.

Wellington attacked Brest last night, dropping 64 tons of bombs on the docks, PRINZ EUGEN and the battle cruisers. SCHARNHORST is thought to have been straddled. Reports, stated by the Air Ministry to be reliable are to the effect that the PRINZ EUGEN was hit and severely damaged, 50 men on board being killed. The GNEISENAU is reported to be out of action for several months.

Poor weather reduced activity today; offensive patrols were flown against shipping in the Channel and off the Dutch coast, but no successes are reported.

At 2345 one of 6 Beauforts of Coastal Command secured a hit with torpedo on a 5000 ton ship which had previously been located off Fecamp.

Enemy Air Operations.

A/S Trawler MORRIS DANCE, separated in fog from Convoy O.G.66, was attacked early this morning and suffered some casualties but no damage.

Mining.

Operation B.8.66.

PLOVER, with HAMBLEDON, laid mines last night in the East Coast Barrier.

Thames Estuary

There was considerable enemy air activity, probably minelaying, over the Thames Estuary last night and to a less extent between Dover and Lowestoft generally.

Bristol Channel

Normal traffic in the River Usk was resumed at 1843B.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Takoradi. A second mine was exploded on 28/6 and the port is still closed. Vessels are still held up inside and outside the harbour, but movements in and out started on 28/6, to relieve congestion, the ships being swept in and out.

Mediterranean.

A.M.C. torpedoed At 1410 today URGE hit with one torpedo an A.M.C. escorting a merchant vessel in 37° 48' N. 15° 21' E. The A.M.C. proceeded at 8 knots.

Libya & Western Desert. Wellingtons bombed Benghazi and Tripoli last night. At Tripoli merchant vessel were damaged.

Convoy attacked At 2349 TORBAY reported that she had successfully attacked a convoy in the Zea Channel.

Cyprus. 8 aircraft dropped 50 bombs S.E. of Paphos today.

Palestine and Syria. It is confirmed that the Vichy destroyers have left Syria.
Strong air R/C was carried out today north and west of Cyprus for 3 French Cruisers which it is believed are attempting to land reinforcements in Syria. The enemy ships were not sighted. Three Vichy French merchant ships are also reported to have left Salonica for Tripoli and this afternoon aircraft reported 3 destroyers and 3 merchant ships 10 miles off the coast, heading south, S.W. of Tyre. R.A.F. aircraft took off to attack them.
C.S.15's force was attacked p.m. today by our own aircraft.
PERTH bombarded a heavy battery east of Damur p.m. today, and effectively silenced it.

U-Boat Campaign.

Late this evening FOLKESTONE, escorting H.G.66 attacked in a thick fog a U-Boat shadowing the convoy on the surface, and possibly damaged the enemy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

REPULSE. — F.O. i/c Greenock, is requested to sail REPULSE for Scapa P.M. 3rd screened by INGLEFIELD and ACHATES.
(C. in C. H.F. 1016B/2.)

TIGRIS. — (a) To leave patrol after dark 5/7, (route) R/V with LA CAPRICIEUSE in 250° Trevose Head 10 miles at 0500B/9. Arrangements.
(Capt.(S)3 1631B/2. to TIGRIS.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. — Adty., 1231B/1.
(1) Notwithstanding F.O.C.N.A. 1716A/1, you are to r.v., with A/S escort in (c) 045° 00' N., 025° 00' W., at 0900B/8th.
(ii) Onward route and name of escort will follow.
(C. in C. W.A. 1934B/2 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)

PRINCE. LEOPOLD and PRINCE PHILIPPE. — Request you will sail them. Complete with their Eureka flotillas, so as to arrive Falmouth by 7/7, arranging necessary escort. (D.O.D.(H) 2349B/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operations.

Skopen Fiord patrol. — In view of present situation I consider constant patrol of Skopen Fiord is no longer justified. I intend A/S trawlers attached to Faroes be employed as a striking force using as advanced base Westmanhavn 062° 09' N., 007° 09' W. The other (? escorts) at Faroes will be able to report and probably intercept any merchant vessels passing through Fiord in good visibility.
(A.C.O.S. 1540B/2 to Adty.)

MARSDALE. — (?MALVERNIAN) bombed. Cancel my 1030 B 25.
(F.O.C.N.P. 2140B/2 to MARSDALE.)

Operation D.N. — Carry out operation D N.
(a) Saturday 5th July.
(b) NIGERIA, CURACOA, BEDOUIN, PUNJABI, TARTAR, ECLIPSE.
(c) Stadlandet.

/(ii).....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.Contd.

Operation D.N. Contd.

(11) Operation D N.
(a) Paragraph 8 A and 9 A.
Force is to keep North of latitude 062° N., when East of Greenich meridian.
(b) Paragraph 13A. For 10 read 6. Delete "shifting for 138 kc/s period".
(c) Paragraph 13 B delete and substitute "communication with fighters on convoy.
(C. in C. H.F. 2332B/2. to C.S.10.)

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

My 1648/1. Patrol postponed owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0740/2.)
STAND now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1514/2.)
My 1204/1 and Your 1648/1 (neither to NELSON.).
Request A/S Patrol may be continued until 1800/3 to cover period NELSON is exercising.
(C. in C. H.F. 1522B/2. to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Your 1522/2. A/S patrol will be continued from 2100/2 until 1100/3.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1958/2. to C. in C. H.F.)
My 1958/2. A/S patrol will be continued until 1800/3 weather permitting.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2140/2 to C. in C. H.F.)

R/C. of Bordeaux.

Request R/C of Bordeaux to ascertain if S.S. BAUDOUINVILLE is still present.
(D.D.I.C. 1126B/2.)

Catalina patrol.

Comparatively large numbers of U-boats are passing to and from French west coastports and owing to present lack of suitable long range aircraft their passage is comparatively unmolested. Request four Catalinas be allocated to maintain anti U-boat patrols throughout the 24 hours in (Western?) part of Plymouth command with every chance of successful results. This would also free land plane squadrons for operations against enemy shipping and gardening. In this locality flying boats are often able to operate when land planes are grounded.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1257/2. to Adty.)

/R/C of North...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations. Contd.

R/C of North Sea.

Air Min., have asked for the return of No.114 Sqn., which has been lent to Coastal Command for some time for R/C duties primarily.
2. Understand that adequate R/C of North Sea cannot be carried out without No.114 Sqn., until Nos. 500 and 608 Sqns., have completed rearming.
3. Request confirmation and dates on which it is anticipated Nos. 500 and 608 Sqs., will complete rearming.
(1st. S.L. 2151B/2 to A.O.C. in C.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.87. HOMEFIRE (British, 1262 Tons.) sunk.

Convoy attacked 2338/1 and 2341/1.
S.S.HOMEFIRE direct hit, sank immediately, 16 survivors, Position variously stated to be 53° 5' 30" N., 1° 28' E; 53° 4' N., 1° 28' E; 53° 5' N., 1° 27' 30" E.
(SHELDRAKE 0100B/2, 0220B/2, 0700B/2, VALOROUS 0014B/2, LEAMINGTON 0130B/2, N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0553B/2, C. in C. Nore 0721B/2.)
Correct position of wreck 53° 5' 27" N., 1° 28' 8" E.
(FRANKLIN 1821/2.)

Attack on O.G.66. MALVERNIAN Sunk 1/7.

One enemy aircraft was destroyed as a result of attack on O G 66 yesterday.
(C. in C. W.A. 1048B/2. to SCARBOROUGH for Cdre.)
My 1850B/1. Have on board 47 survivors including very seriously wounded. Survivors state about 8 officers and 20 ratings still on board, ship was still afloat at 1300, 2 full boats and rafts near ship. No results from yesterdays search in very poor visibility. Rejoined convoy at 0001.
(SCARBOROUGH 1500B/2. to C. in C. W.A.)
Keep good look out for survivors in lat.47° N.,
(C. in C. W.A. 1525B/2 to S.O. 18th C.S. CHALLENGER.)
On parting company proceed to 047° 00' N., 029° 00' W., to search for survivors as long as fuel permits on parallel 047° 00' N., between 029° 00' W., and 034° 00' W.
(C. in C. W.A. 1534B/2. to READING.
If fuel permits detach FANDANGO and MORRIS DANCE forthwith to assist MALVERNIAN.
(C. in C. W.A. 1935B/2 to SCARBOROUGH.)

/In view.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity Contd.

R.D.F. for HUNTS. — In view of present night air attacks on East Coast convoys it is considered that all HUNT Class destroyers of 16th and 21st Flotillas should be fitted with type 285 R D F set as soon as possible. Request an estimate of when sets can be made available.
(C. in C. Nore 1902B/2 to Adv.)

MORRIS DANCE. — Your 1935 B/2. Trawlers have insufficient fuel. MORRIS DANCE separated from convoy in fog last night and was (group omitted) aircraft this morning, 2 casualties reported. Although close has not yet rejoined.
(SCARBOROUGH 2108B/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

Mining.

Stadlandet. — Request latest information regarding possibility of enemy minelaying off Stadlandet.
(C. in C. H.F. 1021B/2.)
Your 1021B/2. No information is available later than that contained in N.I.D.02107/41 dated 4.6.41.
(D.D.I.C. 1633B/2. to C. in C. H.F.)

B.S.67. — Operation B S 67 is to take place tomorrow night. Departure to be taken from 54C buoy at 0045/4 returning by same route.
Escort as for B S 66.
(C. in C. Nore 1146B/2.)

DEVON COUNTY. — M/S Drifter DEVON COUNTY sunk by mine 0845/1 in approx., 051° 28' 51" N., 00° 59' 14" E.
(C. in C. Nore 1540B/2. Cdre I/C Sheerness 1552/2.)

Operation Q.J. — My 1720B/1. Operation Q J is to be postponed. Further instructions will be sent.
(C. in C. Nore 1640B/2. to F.O. Harwich, M.S.4.)

/Thames Estuary....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. Contd.

Thames Estuary. Between 2400/1 and 0210/2 considerable enemy air activity over Thames Estuary R D F Plots showed a probable minelaying aircraft between B 5 and B 6 buoys about 0145. 6 Explosions similar to parachute mine explosions and followed passage of fairly low flying aircraft occurred as follows.
(S.O.T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1812/2.)

Newport. My 1616B/1. Normal traffic in River Usk may now be resumed. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1843B/2.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Unit. By D/F at 2106/1 G.M.T.
Position of unknown enemy unit, probably naval auxiliary, was within 100 miles of 47° 30' N., 12° W. (D.D.I.C. 0015B/2.)
My 0015B/2. Address has been amended to include C. in C. Plymouth.
(D.D.I.C. 0925B/2.)

Baltic. Various items of intelligence. (N.A.Stockholm 1628/2.) See Lion Copy.

Polish submarines. My 1819/26 and 1811/28. This afternoon Polish Minister and Naval Attache conferred with Swedish Naval Authorities who have now permitted rehoisting of Polish ensign and have allowed Senior Captain to pay daily visit. Outstanding difference is that Sweden declines to permit Polish crews or maintenance parties to return to their ship.
(N.A. Stockholm 1729/2.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Naval Mission. Mossnav Telegram 1. Replies to technical inquiries. (1st. S.L. 0037B/2 to N.A. Moscow.)
See Lion Copy.

Casualties & Defects.

OTWAY. Have lost contact with escort. My position 0400 055° (?05') 30" N., 005° 28' 36" W.,am waiting for fog to lift. Starboard engine out of action die tp fractured group exhaust.
(OTWAY 0405B/2 to S.7.)(C. in C.W.A.0901B/2.)

/In company....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

OTWAY. Contd.	In company with escort. E.T.A. 1500. (OTWAY 0905B/2.)
BRIGHTON (Collision 25/6.)	Arrived Rothesay bay tugs THAMES and MARAUDER towing BRIGHTON damaged in collision. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1306B/2.)

Shipping & Convoys.

S.C.34.	In company with HX 132 as far as 11° 15' W. All ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1251B/2) 22 British, 12 Allied. Cargoes. (D.S.666.)
H.X.132.	Route amended, met as arranged. 101 hours fog. All ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1252B/2.) 34 ships including 10 Allied and 1 neutral. (D.S. 666.)
H.G.65.	Arrived. 14 ships including 4 neutrals and 1 Allied. Cargoes. (D.S. 666.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raider Situation

My 1338B/27.
FRUMENTON made raider distress signal 27/6 in 40° 08' N. 53° 44' W. No cancellation received but may have been a British or American ship.
on 25th - 26/6 Yankee Clipper sighted suspicious merchant ship in 37° 26' N. 43° 07' W. respectively. Proceeding E.N.E. at 5 knots, possibly supply or Merchant ship.
On 30/6 D/F indications in area 28°-31° N, 31° -34° W. Possibly raider No.16 returning owing to loss of BABITONGA and ALSTERTOR but might be outward bound raider or supply ship.
On 26/6 an incomplete Raider distress message received from unknown ship, latitude not read but longtitude was 88° 16' E.
Impossible at present to determine whether a raider is now operating in Indian Ocean.
(D.D.I.C. 1819B/2.)

North Atlantic.

CILICIA

Part company on meeting destroyer escort and unless you have other orders return to Freetown by same route.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0944A/2 to CILICIA.)

0.21

Proceed forthwith to establish patrol within 30 miles radius 043° N. 011° W. Object is to attack raider (description) which may be making for Bay of Biscay port from vicinity of 0300 N. 032° W. T.B.R. arranged for patrol area, C. in C. Plymouth requested to take necessary action.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1036A/2, 1038A/2 to S/M. 0.21.)

BAUDOUINVILLE (Belgian)

Reported was to leave Bordeaux with aviation material on 2/7. Graded B.1. Air R/C has been asked for to check this report.
(D.D.I.C. 1128B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

KERSTEN MILES (German)

Has been supplied with Coal Bunkers ex Italian TROVATORE.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1145/2.)

French Convoy

0638 French armed trawler SERGENT GOUARNE, French S.S. CAPITAINE PRIEUR laden, THESEE light Westbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1525A/2 to S.O.I. Kingston.)

/PETUNIA.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

PETUNIA — A.T. 1721B/30.
In addition, PETUNIA is expected to call about 7/7. Will require about 150 tons oil fuel.
(D.O.D.(F) 1724B/2 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

SEVERN — P.C. and S. at 1800A/2. 037° 14' 002° 18' E. 258 11 knots. Adjusted speed for battery discharge P.M./3 to arrive A.M./4. Have merchant ship captain prisoner.
(SEVERN, 1803A/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ERNANI — Request that I may be informed if Italian ERNANI which left Las Palmas 25/6 is captured or sunk as cargo is of interest to both Spanish and Greek Govt.
(N.A. Madrid 1817/2 to Admty.)

JESUS ANTONIO Transport of pyrites for Germany — Pyrites being sent to Germany by small Spanish steamers to Barcelona where transhipped to axis vessel or sent by train. Submit Spanish ships are unlikely to remain within territorial waters whole voyage. First ship due to leave shortly N.S.O.(I) Gibraltar could instruct Malaga report departure. One vessel concerned believed to be JESUS ANTONIO.
(N.A. Madrid, 1915/2 to Admty.)

Submarines — Employment of "River" class and Dutch S/Ms. (V.C.N.S. 1922B/2 to Capt. (S) 8.) See Lion Copy.

FURIOUS SCYTHIA CAMERONIA — A.M. 1036B/1 and 1231B/1. Most desirable to sail FURIOUS, SCYTHIA and CAMERONIA to take advantage of inward escort provided for ROYAL SOVEREIGN on 8/7. Can you provide necessary A/S escort out of Gibraltar?
HERMIONE will be available as distant cover during passage.
(V.C.N.S. 2011B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Reply: 0702/3.

South Atlantic.

Takoradi mines. — My 2105/27. A second mine was exploded at Takoradi on 28/6 within half a cable of first in same direction.
(C. in C. S.A., 0011N/2 to Admty.)

/ESCOLANO.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

ESCOLANO Spanish	Suspicious passenger. If ship is encountered and if satisfied he is German remove him and baggage. No special steps to intercept ship need be taken. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0020B/2 to C. in C. S.A.)
Belgian Congo.	Staff talks. (W.O., 0130/2 to G.O.C. W. Africa) See Lion Copy.
Convoy W.S.9B.	List, fuel and water requirements. (D. of S.T. 0324B/2 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.)
ENA	Overdue shipping ENA due Beira 27/6 from Bahrein not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0951B/2.)
MANKA LIHAT.	Overdue shipping. Dutch MANKA LIHAT due Capetown 27/6 from U.K. not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0958B/2.)
GALATEA EDINBURGH	GALATEA estimates 20% fuel remaining on arrival Freetown provided she does not exceed speed of convoy. Margin very small for an ocean escort and I consider it advisable EDINBURGH to remain with convoy to 025° N. at least. (F.O. 18 C.S., 1201B/2, to Admty.)
EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA.	Your 1947/26. A.M.C. escort can be provided but use of A.M.C. for escorting single transports is uneconomical expenditure of effort. Recently escort has been provided for CAMERONIA from Cape to Gibraltar via Freetown and now is required for EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA from Cape to lat. 50 N. These requirements take A.M.C.'s away from patrol area near trade O routes where they may be in position to act against enemy raiders or supply ships. (C. in C. S.A., 1431N/2 to Admty.)
FORT DE FRANCE, ST. DOMINGUE	French ship FORT DE FRANCE is replacing SAINT DOMINGUE in trade between Martinique Cayenne and Para. BARFLEUR also trading to Cayenne. This is known and approved by U.S. Naval Officer Observer stationed at Martinique. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1611Z/2 to N.C.S.O. Para.) See also American and West Indies.

/Enemy.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

Enemy Shipping. Interception of enemy ships leaving River Plate area is of more importance than of those leaving Brazilian Ports. In particular, desired that German ERLANGEN believed now to be at Mor Del Plata should be intercepted.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1900B/2 to C. in C. S.A.).

Takoradi shipping Suggest that unless port expected to re-open shortly vessels waiting to discharge should discharge at Lagos or other port. Vessels waiting for cargo should proceed to alternative loading ports.
(D.T.D. 2159B/2, to S.O.I. Freetown.)

DRAGON, QUEEN OF BERMUDA. Your 1245N/30. Approved for DRAGON to refit at Simonstown as arranged. Enquiry being made whether QUEEN OF BERMUDA can be received in U.S.A. for refit and installation of catapult, aircraft crane etc., about third week in August. QUEEN OF BERMUDA should be kept in service pending decision.
(D.O.D.(F) 2352B/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

A.M.C.'s for Trade Decided to return following A.M.C.'s to trade on relief by other vessels, ESPERANCE BAY, MORETON BAY and ARAWA. Redisposition of A.M.C.s is under consideration.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2353/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

OSIRIS Your 1319 ?B/26. Expect me 24 hours late. (Defects).
(OSIRIS, 0231B/2 to V.A. Malta.)

HANS SCHMIDT (German) Arrived 30/6.
(Valencia 0726/2 to M. of W.T.)

Campaign against Russia. Appreciation. (N.S.O.(I) Istanbul 0955/2.)
See Lion Copy.

Vichy Freighters My 2311C/1. Sail PARTHIAN to arrive on patrol within 15 miles radius Tripoli by 04000/3.
(C. in C. Med., 0958C/2 to C.S.15.)

/S/Ms.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

S/Ms. not to attack small ships in ballast.

The importance of sinking all enemy ships whether in ballast or loaded is vital. The restrictions in para. 6 S W 1(?M) No.20 are cancelled but C.O's are reminded of chance of torpedo running ship in ballast (?and) for this reason small ships in ballast should not normally be attacked.
(Capt. (S) 1, 1017C/2 to 1st S.F.)

Tobruk raid 1/7.

Tobruk bombed by about 35 aircraft 1/7, minor damage to jetties only.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1038/2.)

URGE
UPHOLDER

URGE leaves patrol p.m./2 and returns to Malta by reverse of outward route to arrive 0630B/4. UPHOLDER has liberty of action in Area M, 036° 40' 015° 10' 000° 80 - 50 from 0430B/3.
(Cdr. S.1., 1117B/2 to URGE, UPHOLDER.)

French Ship.

2/7 departure VIRGO French FIDELIS.
(Bilbao, 1128/2.)

ST.DIDIER
CHATEAU YQUEM
THEOPHILE GAUTIER.

My 2311C/1. If these ships are definitely identified in Turkish territorial waters they are to be sunk. (C. in C. Med., 1314C/2, to 815 Sqdn., N.O.I.C. Cyprus.)

RORQUAL

Proposed operation. (V.A. Malta, 1425B/2 to C. in C. Med.) See Mediterranean Volume.

Tripoli bombed.

C.S.R. Malta up to 1600 2/7.
No enemy air activity. 5 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli night 1/2. 6 direct hits Spanish Mole and others at base of Karamanli Mole starting fire on edge of town. 1 medium M/V 1 probably 2 direct hits. Believed set on fire but hidden by heavy smoke screen.
(H.Q. Malta, 1600/2.)

Enemy Convoy

Following received fron R.A.F. H.Q. Jerusalem.
5 four-funnel destroyers and 3 merchant ships 10 miles off coast heading south 270° from Tyre.
(Haifa W/T, 1600C/2.)
My 1600/2 12 R.A.F. aircraft taking off to bomb ships.
(Haifa W/T, 1605C/2.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 2.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

THEOPHILE GAUTIER. My 2345C/1. Description. (Capt. (S)1 to 1839C/2 to NEREUS.)

Abey Bombardment. Artillery Commander reports no further activity from battery at Abey, now presumed off the map. Ammunition dump was definitely hit and majority of shot fell in target area. Report on destroyer result not yet available. (N.L.O. Palestine, 2113C/2 to C.S.15.)

Night 1/2.

Benghazi and Beirut bombed. 4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi. 3 Wellingtons bombed Beirut causing small fire and hit on shipping alongside Northern Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 2129/2.)

Situation Report No.74. (1) Syria. Confirmed that Vichy destroyers have left Syria. C.S.15 with force B carrying out sweep to N. of Beirut tonight 2/3. Strong air R/C to N. and W. of Cyprus, nothing seen. (2) Western Desert. Heavy bombing attacks Tobruk did not interfere with unloading of stores. MIRANDA slightly damaged sailing tonight in tow of SOUTHERN ISLE. Unloading ANTIKLA continued. CRICKET arrived Alexandria in tow of ST. ISSEY. (C. in C. Med., 2148C/2 to Admty.)

FORMIDABLE Ukarm 672. Will be accepted for repairs at Navy Yard Norfolk, Va., leaving Alexandria about end July. Request you will sail her via Cape as soon as ready. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2150B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

TORBAY Your 1755/1 and M.S. No.792 and 797 not received. Request repetition at intervals as hunt is hot following successful attack on convoy in Zea Channel. Have now withdrawn east of Doro Channel as your 1839/1 suggests I am not to comply with your 1425/1. (TORBAY, 2349C/2 to Capt. S.1.).

East Indies.

MAREEBA Overdue, left Tegal, Java 15/6 for Colombo via Malacca Strait, not arrived. (S.O.I. Colombo, 1138Z/2 to Admty. etc.)

Turn round of ships in Indian ports. Co-operation between Sir George Campbell and myself remain very one sided and I have noticed no improvement yet in the arrangements at Colombo. (C. in C. E.I., 1146Z/2 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 2.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

SAGITTAIRE (French) — Passed Sunda Strait 1/7 for Madagascar Dakar and France, (cargo on board). No navicerts. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0802Z/2 to Admty.)

Japanese requisitioning freighters. — Japanese Govt. has requisitioned 4 16 knot freighters within the last fortnight. NAMKAI MARU is also reported as being requisitioned and is now on passage to Rangoon having cancelled scheduled trip to U.S.A. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0938Z/2.)

America and West Indies.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN — F.O.C.N.A. 1716A/1. ROYAL SOVEREIGN left Bermuda 1600Q/30 and will require to refuel if R/V is postponed. Unless separate A/S escort can be provided at R/V on 8/7, propose ROYAL SOVEREIGN be diverted to Halifax. now (C. in C. A.W.I. 0951Q/2 to Admty.)

BARFLEUR FORT DE FRANCE — Following from Washington. French A.M.C. BARFLEUR was due to leave Martinique 28/6 escorting French ship FORT DE FRANCE to Cayenne and thence to Para. BARFLEUR to return to Martinique about 15/7. A (O). (C. in C. A.W.I., 1139Q/2 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.) My 1139Q/2. Is this an approved voyage in accordance with your 2337/17/6. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1142Q/2 to Admty.)

VAN KINSBERGEN — Your 1546B/23/6. and 1507B/10/5. VAN KINSBERGEN can be ready to leave Bermuda for U.K. 14/7. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1241Q/2 to Admty.) Programme. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1302Q/2.)

Tug ST.BLAZEY — Collided with dockyard wall. Anticipate repairs 3 weeks. (Cdre. 1/c Bermuda, 1603Q/2.)

/Transfer.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 2.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies Contd.

Transfer of A.M.C.'s from Halifax Escort Force to S. Atlantic Command.

Your 1212B/29. Bare minimum for HX ~~HX~~ and S.C. convoys is 12. To allow for refit at least one additional armed merchant cruiser is required. There are now 16 in N.A. Escort Force of which three are refitting and two under repair. None therefore can be spared now. Propose transferring three selected A.M.Cs. as soon as ships now in dockyard hands become available.
(B.S.3., 1626P/2 to Admty.)

U.S.Merchant Ships.

Request information whether N.C.S.O's are routeing U.S. Flag Merchant ships sailing between U.S. and Near East on British service.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1832B/2 to N.A. Washington.)

ODDVAR II.

Propose to intercept Finnish ODDVAR II which it is understood recently sailed from Trinidad without permission? U.S. Govt. are anxious for her to proceed direct Mobile to unload her cargo. Believe she will bunker at Saint Thomas.
(N.A. Washington, 1843/2 to Admty.)

ELBE (German)

(Sunk on 8/6). Survivors to STADARNHEM.
(A.L.U.S.N.A., 2205/2 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

St. John's N.F.

Base scheme, arrangements.
(Hd. of M., 2219B/2 to C.N.S. Ottawa.)

ILE NOIR MOUTIER

1/7 departure Casablanca 16/7.
(New York, 2255Z/2.)

MALAYA

Armuk 475, 2/7.
C. in C. A. & W.I. 10010/25. Request immediate reply as to what port MALAYA is to proceed to ? Leaving on 8/7. As MALAYA has to obtain Swordfish aircraft leaving Piarco in S.S. TUDOR PRINCE 6/7 Bermuda would appear the most suitable.
(B.A.R.M., 2350/2 to Admty.)

QUEEN OF BERMUDA

Cancel Ukarm 640, (1936/28.)
Can QUEEN OF BERMUDA be received in U.S.A. for refit and fitting of catapult and aircraft crane, and if so at what yard? Catapult, crane etc. can be shipped QUEEN OF BERMUDA who should arrive about third week in August. Estimated length of refit 8 to 10 weeks.
(D.O.D.(F) 2350B/2 to B.A.R.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.7.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

2013/1. My 2203B/1. Estimated position of U/Boat was within 60 miles of 34° 30' N., 27° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 0044B/2, F.O.C.N.A., 0135A/2 to N.A. Stn.).

0256. At 0256 G.M.T. German submarines bearing 257° 3rd class. (F.O.C.N.A., 0503/2, 0526A/2 to N.A. Stn.) Estimated U/B dispositions. (22 German, 4 Italian). (D.D.I.C. 1336B/2.)

1933. D.F. bearing from Middle hill Gibraltar at 1933 G.M.T. of German S/M., was 311/1. (F.O.C.N.A., 2133A/2, to N.A. Stn.)

2250. Am investigating suspicious swirl suspected Submarine 58.47 N., 3.52 W. (A/c Duty P., 2250/2, to 18 (R) H.Q.) Suspected periscope seen through glasses (position as 2250/2.) Bubbles only on reaching course unknown, no attack, staying at position 240 two - two haze. (A/C Duty P.2. 2340/2, to 18 (R) H.Q.)

2032. At 2032 G.M.T. German submarine bearing 310/1 made a sighting report. (F.O.C.N.A., 2251A/2, to N.A. Stn.)

2250. Observer Corps reports C/T of S/M which quickly submerged in position 024° Scarborough light 4 miles at 2250/2 Grade C 5. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2340/2.)

S/M's Attacked.

By AARLA 0850/2. AARLA attacked S/m at 0850/2, in 52°15' N., 5° 0' W., with 3 d.c's, abandoned attack 0930 in order to resume convoy escort. (AARLA, 0935/2, to C. in C. W.A., Admty.)

By NASTURTIUM GLADIOLUS 27/6. Have interviewed C.O's GLADIOLUS and NASTURTIUM and studied reports of attacks against German U.Boat 27/6 which resulted in sinking of latter and capture of crew. No doubt NASTURTIUM was mainly responsible for result.

/GLADIOLUS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.7.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN. Contd.

Submarines Attacked.

By NASTURTIUM
GLADIOLUS
27/6.
Contd.

GLADIOLUS was unable obtain contact until shortly before end when her 2 attacks finished off U.boat which was already badly damaged. CELANDINE did not make contact but was led in and directed by GLADIOLUS. Consider great credit due to C.O., A/S C.O., and Asdic operators NASTURTIUM.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1205/2, to C. in C. W.A.)

By FOLKESTONE.

Have attacked shadowing submarine on surface in thick fog. Am hunting. AZALEA in company with convoy capable of listening watch only. My position 045° 19' N., 025° 35' W.
(FOLKESTONE, 2231A/2, to C. in C. W.A.)
My 2231A/ 2. S/M believed damaged intend to remain in vicinity. (weather report.)
(FOLKESTONE, 2347A/2, to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.7.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Operations

60 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Bremen last night causing a large fire in the Deutsche Schiff ship building yards. Minor attacks were made on Cherbourg Docks and Rotterdam oil storage.

Enemy Air Operations

SS GREAT WESTERN was attacked in the early hours of today near Tuskar Rock and was damaged but was able to proceed.

Mining

Thames Estuary. Mines being laid by aircraft in the early hours of this morning were detected in the Thames Estuary. Boom Drifter RECEPTIVE was destroyed by a mine at 1820 in the East Swale. Auxiliary barge ROSME was sunk by the detonation of an S.A. mine in the Estuary at 1330.

North Atlantic

GROUIN-DU-COU SCOTTISH today intercepted the Vichy French Trawler GROUIN-DU-Cou and is sending her in to Gibraltar under armed guard.

Mediterranean

RAMB IV Italian hospital ship RAMB IV, which was intercepted off Aden after the fall of Massawa, is to be detained for at least 6 months on account of flagrant violations of the Geneva Convention by the Governments of Germany and Italy.

/Libya.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

3.7.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Libya and Western Desert Heavy air attacks on enemy shipping at Tripoli.

R.A.F. last night bombed Benghazi, Bardia and Derna. Shipping at Tripoli was attacked and R/C this morning showed as result one 6000 ton merchant ship on fire. Six Swordfish laid mines last night following on R/C report of merchant ships lying outside Tripoli harbour, and Blenheims also attacked these ships, both last night and again today, whilst Wellingtons bombed the harbour and shipping inside. As a result of these operations at least two more ships appear to have been set on fire outside the harbour and one inside.

Palestine & Syria.

C.S. 15 with Force B carried out a sweep north of Beirut last night to intercept French cruisers reported making for Syria with reinforcements. Strong air R/C north and west of Cyprus yesterday failed to sight them.

Forces on the coast now include AJAX, PERTH, NAIAD, PHOEBE and destroyers. PARTHIAN is patrolling off Tripoli.

3 Wellingtons bombed Beirut last night.

Vichy aircraft bombed Haifa last night.

China

Within the last fortnight the Japanese Govt. has requisitioned several fast freighters.

U-Boat Campaign

U.S. Destroyer HUGHES today picked up 14 survivors, including 4 women of VIGRID, torpedoed 21/6 in 55° N., 41° W.,

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

3.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Oban A/S Patrol. Request four Seine Net vessels fitted asdic may be allocated to my command for Oban A/S patrol. This will free 32nd A/S group for escorting Oban portions of convoys to and from R/V for which they are exclusively required in order that corvettes at present detached for these duties may have more adequate time in harbour between escort duties.
(C. in C. W.A., 1726B/3.)

ARAWA. Your 1436B/2. ARAWA is being turned over to Ministry of War Transport for reconversion to Trade.
(A.C.N.S. T. 2021B/3 to F.O.C.N.P.)

R.D.F. sets in Hunt Destroyers. Your 1902B/2. Type 285 sets have been allocated to Hunt class destroyers of flotillas mentioned to meet your intended refitting programme. Three to four weeks is the estimated time to fit this set. If you confirm that you intend to make these ships available in advance of these dates, consideration will be given to the allocation of the necessary set.
(D.S.D., 2112B/3 to C. in C. Nore.)

Defence of U.K.

Iceland. Your O.856 cipher 16/6.
Chiefs of Staff approve establishment of combined defence H.Q. Artun in event of invasion. Present Army H.Q. Artun and combined Naval and R.A.F. H.Q. Reykjavik to be retained for use in normal circumstances.
(War Office, 2100/3 to G.O.C. Iceland.)

Movements.

OBERON KINGFISHER BREDA. C. in C. W.A. 1904B/27. Intend to sail OBERON, -KINGFISHER and BREDA at 0900B/7 to 057° N. 011° W. E.T.A. 1230B/8 for special A/S trials lasting about 4 days.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange fighter protection and T.B.R. in the vicinity of position of trials.
(Capt. S.7., 0931B/3.)

/EDINBURGH.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

3.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

EDINBURGH. Your 1201B/2.
As all surface warships are located elsewhere this margin can be accepted.
2. EDINBURGH is to leave convoy at noon 4th and proceed as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. to join and escort FURIOUS to R/V with ROYAL SOVEREIGN.
3. EDINBURGH is then to proceed to Gibraltar.
(A.C.N.S. F. 1314B/3 to C.S.18.)

Obsolete Recognition Signals. A G M 284A of 1247B/2/7. Following ships may be at sea with obsolete recognition signal from 0001/6 to 2359 on dates shown.
(1) In N.W. Approaches. NOTTS COUNTY, ST. APOLLO, ANGLE, ST. LOMAN until 14/7.
(2) On N.P. NORTHERN GIFT until 14/7 NORTHERN FOAM until 20/7.
(3) On passage to S.A. Station. CORDELA and NORSE until 17/7.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1515B/3 to Admty.)

TALISMAN, THUNDERBOLT Admiralty 1618B/25.
Intend to sail TALISMAN at 1900Z/4 and THUNDERBOLT at 1900Z/8 both unescorted for Gibraltar. Routes.
(Capt. S.2., 1534Z/3.)

Plymouth Ships proceeding to Plymouth should arrive at 180° Rame Head Chapel 2.2. miles between 0800 and one hour before sunset.
(2) My 1836/21st February 1941 is cancelled.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2221/3.)

Operations.

Faroes - Shetland Channel Patrol. On arrival of MINERVE, request you will sail P.31. for A/S patrol of about 10 days duration in Faeroes Shetland Channel in an area to be selected by you. Request you will arrange T.B.R. as necessary to cover area selected and outward passage route.
(F.O.S. 1109B/3 to A.C.O.3.)

Faroes. Trawler Striking Force. Your 1540/2. Intend to operate as follows.
(i) One A/S Trawler patrolling from Myggenaes light to 061° 2' N. 010° 20' W. arriving the former at 1200B and the latter at 2345B daily.
(ii) One A/S Trawler at instant readiness at Vestmanhavn.
From 1200B/4 dispositions will be (i) LORD LLOYD. (ii) STELLA PEGASI.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1600/3.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

3.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols

My 2140/2. Aircraft recalled owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0130/3.)
My 1958/2. Patrol again in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0515/3.)
My 1958/2. A/C being recalled owing to weather conditions at bases. Sunderland from Sullom Voe being sent but will not arrive area until 0900/3.)
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0636/3.)

REPULSE Air Escort

From 1400B/3 during daylight hours until about 1200B/4.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0214B/3 to H.Q.F.C.)

Bremen Cherbourg Rotterdam Amsterdam attacked.

On Night 2/3, 60 A/C attacked Bremen. Many fires started. Two big bombs (4,000 lb.) were dropped and one of these caused all Flak and Search-lights to stop for some time. A large fire was reported in the Deutsche Schiff Shi-building Yards, also in the centre and south east part of the town.
At Cherbourg bursts were seen in dock-side buildings and in the south-west dock area.
Rotterdam, and searchlight concentration south of Amsterdam were each attacked by 1 aircraft.
At Rotterdam bursts straddled the oil tanks starting fires and one A/C bombed the oil storage tanks at junction of Maas and Nieub Wager Waterweg Rotterdam causing a terrific explosion.
(H.Q.B.C., 1604/3.)

C.E. Convoy Fighter Escort.

Can you arrange that last machine to leave C.E. Convoy at dusk should flash his downward recognition signal to one of the escort destroyers as he leaves as a signal that all friendly fighters have left.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1807B/3.)

Clyde Air R/C.

My 1658B/29/6. R/C was carried out on Night 1/7. Proved unsuccessful. Further R/C necessary. Suggest 13/7. Detailed proposals.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1904/3.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations.

MORRIS DANCE. — Now in company reported attacked yesterday by F.W. No damage, two casualties. (SCARBOROUGH, 0818B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)

GREAT WESTERN damaged. — Reported from Rosslare that S.S. GREAT WESTERN attacked on run from Fishguard at 0230/3 8 miles east of Tuskar Rock. Damage to engines, but can still steam and will return to Fishguard on run tonight. Apparently no casualties. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1214B/3.)

SCHIELAND (Bombed 20/6) — Wreck in 53° 17'40" N. 1° 0'39" E. Dangerous. (FRANKLIN, 1731/3.)

MALVERNIAN (Bombed 1/7) — Detach one corvette forthwith to assist MALVERNIAN. Reported 8 Officers and 20 ratings still on board at 1300B/1. Two boats and raft were in the vicinity. One boat load of survivors was picked up on 1/7 in 047° 07' 019° 20'. (C. in C. W.A., 2352B/3 to WESTCOTT.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary. RECEPTIVE and one Sailing Barge sunk. — Four Mines being laid by aircraft detected -by Foreness C H L Station as follows. (C. in C. Nore, 1124B/3.)
Skipper of H.M.T. HEROINE reports having detonated two S.A. mines in about 51° 32'00" N. 01° 2'36" E. at 1217/3.
Four sailing barges were in vicinity, one of which was seen to slowly heel over and sink. One of the other barges was observed to close and apparently picked up survivors.
Detonations appeared to be well clear of barges.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1805/3.)
Boom Drifter RECEPTIVE sunk by mine in the Eastswale at 1820/3. Approx. 51° 20'50" N. 00° 54'35" E. No details available, but so far 4 survivors reported landed at Faversham.
(Cdre. in Charge, Sheerness, 2205B/3.)

/Burnham.....

War Diary. 3.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining Contd.

Burnham — Parachute mine exploded 200 yards inside Holliwell Point at 0150/3. Portion recovered. Sentries report having heard what appears to be a second. Probably in River Crouch entrance. If possible request a mine sweeper may be sent to investigate.
(R.N.O. Burnham, 1302/3.)

New Minefield. — Propose to lay first two lines of 20 Series Minefield as follows. Particulars. Request your remarks.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1821B/3 to C. in C. H.F., R.A.M.)
See Lion Copy.

PLOVER. — Request you will sail PLOVER for Immingham as convenient after completion of B.S.67. PLOVER should clean boilers at Immingham and report when ready for further service.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1825/3.)

B.S.67. — Departures HAMBLEDON and PLOVER at 2127.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2145B/3.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Intelligence — Request permission to receive and pass more operational intelligence to Russians. Reasons.
(Military Mission, Moscow, 0329/3 to War Office.)
See Lion Copy.

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X.136 S.C.36. — Pass to Commodores HX.136 and SC.36 after overtaking are to be closed up as one group to Eastern R/V T.
(D.T.D. 1939B/3 to CALIFORNIA, PHILANTE.)

H.X.137 — When BURWELL joins detach one destroyer to proceed to St. Johns N.F. at best speed. Destroyer detached will be required to escort H.X.137.
(C. in C. W.A., 2354B/3 to RICHMOND.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BAUDOUIN-VILLE. (Belgian) — A.M.1128B/2. Photographic R/C at 1815B/2 shewed vessel still present. (D.D.I.C. 0603B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

O.G.66.
LEGION.
LANCE. — Join O.G.66 at best possible speed. Directly you join convoy send LEGION and LANCE back to Gibraltar at best possible speed. (F.O.C.N.A. 0640A/3 to Capt. D.8.)
Your 0702A/3. Accepted. LANCE and LEGION must join before R/V with ROYAL SOVEREIGN. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1909B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

FURIOUS.
SCYTHIA.
CAMERONIA. — Your 2011B/2 para.2. This can be done (?provided) it can be accepted that no screen will be available for Force H. (F.O.C.N.A. 0702A/3 to Admty.)

CHALLENGER. — On leaving Ponta Delgada pass through following positions (g) 036° 00' N. 026° 00' W. (h) 020° 00' 019° 00' thence to Freetown as ordered by C. in C.S.A. (F.O.C.N.A. 1114A/3 to CHALLENGER.)

FURIOUS.
SCYTHIA.
CAMERONIA. — Admty's 2011B/2. Remain present patrol until 0600A/8th to provide distant cover for FURIOUS, SCYTHIA, CAMERONIA sailing Gibraltar 0001A/5th routed in accordance with my 0950A/28 June. Then return Gibraltar reporting E.T.A. and also if you will be below 20%. (F.O.C.N.A. 1142A/3 to HERMIONE.)

French Armed Trawler. — Sighted French armed trawler, P.C. and S. 038° 42' N. 009° 38' W. 350° 10 knots. (LOCH ASKAIG 1250B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

HERMIONE. — A.T.1308B/1. Request you will detach HERMIONE from patrol forthwith to search for survivors of MALVERNIAN bombed in 47° 37' N. 19° 07' W. on 1/7.
2. HERMIONE should then resume patrol leaving for Gibraltar after dark 5/7 or when fuel necessitates. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1311B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

P.32. — Subject to satisfactory trial intend to sail P.32 p.m./6th for Malta route. (F.O.C.N.A. 1506A/3 to C. in C. Med.)

/Re. .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Re attacks by enemy aircraft off Spanish & Portuguese coasts.

Your 1652/20. As both EMPIRE WARRIOR and GUNDA were outside territorial waters when attacked, request N.C.S.O. ?(s in) U.K. be instructed to impress on Masters sailing in O.G. convoys the vital necessity of keeping in territorial waters as much as possible after being detached. (2) A.M.1853/12 Feb.? and N.U.S.I. 122 it is for consideration that if sufficient escorts are in company and numbers warrant, at discretion of Senior escort and Commodore, ships for Portuguese and Spanish ports west of Gibraltar be detached with escort to arrive off Cape St. Vincent after dark those for ports North of Cape St. Vincent proceeding independently thence and remainder continuing with escort and being detached as requisite. (F.O.C.N.A.1546A/3 to Admty.)

Comply with Adty.1311B/3: If nothing is sighted by dark 5th resume patrol in accordance with my 1142A/3. Report when you expect to have to leave patrol in order to arrive Gibraltar with not less than 15% of fuel remaining. Enemy aircraft reported to have used correct identification. (F.O.C.N.A. 1616A/3 to HERMIONE.)

Oil fuel remaining does not permit compliance with Adty. 1311B/3 or your 1142A/3. Latest time for leaving patrol is 2300A/5 and E.T.A. at Gibraltar 0600/7 10% usable oil fuel remaining. If recalled now can refuel in time to sail with FURIOUS. (HERMIONE 1705A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S.S.GAYARRE.

Huelva reports Spanish S.S. GAYARRE arrived 27/6 to load 5000 tons Pyrites for Bilbao or Pasajes in German interest. Destination probably port occupied France. Other ships to follow. It appears certain ultimate destination of cargo is Germany. (N.A. Madrid 1825/3 to Admty.)

Recognition Signals.

Admty. 1247/2. Trawlers of Western Patrol will be using incorrect signals until a.m./11 and A.B.V. on patrol in the Straits until 0900A/5. (F.O.C.N.A. 1845A/3 to N.A. Station.)

Return to Gibraltar at best speed. (F.O.C.N.A. 2154A/3 to HERMIONE.)

Hurricanes.

Hurricanes which were not flown to Malta in operation "Railway" are to return to U.K. in FURIOUS. (V.C.N.S.1350B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/GROUIN-DU-COU .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

GROUIN-DU-COU. Have intercepted Vichy French Trawler GROUIN-DU-COU am sending in under armed guard and keeping company until passed St. Vincent. Trawler was on passage from (??Marseilles) to Lisbon position 300 P.C.L. 10. (SCOTTISH 1810A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

EMA. Overdue shipping cancel my 0951/2. EMA arrived Lourenco Marques. (S.O.(I) Capetown 0906B/3)

BEIDORAN. Overdue Shipping BEIDORAN due Capetown 28/6 from U.K. not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1058B/3)

DUNOTTAR CASTLE. Your 1715/1. DUNOTTAR CASTLE can be taken in hand. (D.O.D (F) 1234B/3 to C. in C.S.A.)

LONDON. Admty. 1532B/20/6 and 1534B/17/6.
2. It has been found necessary to have LONDON nearer U.K. for the time being.
3. Request you will sail her to Gibraltar so as to arrive there by 12/7. (D.O.D.(F) 1519B/3 to C. in C.S.A.)

DESIRADE. Log book destroyed. From available information routes as follows. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1625/3) See Lion Copy.

CARNARVON CASTLE. Your 1023Z/1. Visit approved. Oil supplies for South America have this day been cut by 22% would it be possible to reduce supply to CARNARVON CASTLE approximately (?) 24%. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1751Z/3 to R.A.S.A.D.)

DESIRADE. (Vichy French) Was requisitioned by Union Government 3/7 at Capetown without incident. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1951B/3.)

MADRYN. ERLANGEN. FORTUNSTELLA. Argentine Statute listed vessel MADRYN left Buenos Aires at 1700Z/3 carrying cargo for ERLANGEN at Mar del Plata will probably not be discharged Mar del Plata until 8/7.
B.2. secret sources state possible will make second voyage. B. nought sources state will discharge part of cargo to German ship at sea before reaching Mar del Plata.
ERLANGEN receiving coal, stores and cargo from shore. FORTUNSTELLA at Necochea E.T.L. in 2 to 3 days, but can only get out at high water whi is 1230 local time/3.
Other French Danish and Italian ships completely idle and no repeat no signs of any movement.
(Buenos Aires 2112Z/3 to R.A.S.A.D.

/Japanese ..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Japanese Shipping. Secret sources Grade C.3 report "O.S.K. local office today received cable that all Japanese ships north of line are to return to Japan immediately without call at United States port or to pass through Panama Canal. All ships south of line to endeavour to reach destination or take refuge in neutral port". (B.N.A. Buenos Aires, 2155Z/3 to D.N.I.)

CARNARVON CASTLE. Your 1751/3. (N.T. in W.D.) Most desirable that CARNARVON CASTLE should embark full amount as she cannot fuel from Squadron Oiler. (R.A.S.A.D. 2227Z/3 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)

Mediterranean.

Suez Canal. A/A defence. Chiefs of Staff No.142 to C. in C. Med. and C. in C's M.E. (1st S.L.OOOME/3 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

GUEPARD. VALMY. VAUQUELIN. Fr. Light Cruisers GUEPARD, VALMY, VAUQUELIN reported due Salonika 1/7 to convey reinforcements to Syria. Date of return not known but they will probably use (?Turkish) territorial waters. (Capt.S.1. 0117C/3 to Greek S/M NEREUS, TORBAY.)

Middle East. General appreciation of situation. (C.in C.M.E. 0500/3) See Lion Copy.

SULLBERG. C.P.LEMERLE. Departure SULLBERG, German, for Marseilles. CAPITAINE PAUL LEMERLE, French, for Marseilles. (Barcelona 0660/3)

RAMB IV. To be detained for at least 6 months in replacement of one of British hospital ships damaged by enemy's wilful action in flagrant violation of a convention which has received signature and approval of German and Italian Govs. and from which these Govs. by marking their vessels in accordance with its requirements expect to derive full advantage. (1st Lord 0939B/3 to C. in C.Med.

Syria operations. My 1748C/2nd. Suggest you should now form two forces.
A. A Bombardment force under F.O. 7th C.S. consisting of AJAX, PERTH and necessary destroyers.
B. An intercepting force consisting of NAIAD, PHOEBE and remaining destroyers.
As soon as situation caused by Vichy attempt to reinforce by sea has cleared up the extra two cruisers and two destroyers will return to Alexandria. (C. in C.Med.1055C/3 to F.O.15 C.S.)

/Attack .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Attack on C.S. 15 by own A/C. Understand your force was attacked by drove of own aircraft p.m./2. Request you press for a full enquiry. Do you consider deck identification marks should be introduced. (C. in C. Med. 1059/3 to F.O.C.15 C.S.)

Damaged destroyers. Your 2223B/20. It is out of the question at present for damaged destroyers to reach Malta. (? JANUS) has been sent to Simonstown so that she will be as near as possible to replacement services. NUBIAN will not be ready to leave (?Suez) before 25/7. Intend she should proceed to Bombay. Request destinations for ILEX now at (?Port Said) expected to be ready for ocean passage about 19/7. Further signal will be made about ISIS.(C. in C. Med. 11010/3 to Adty.)

PEONY. To sail for Famagusta to assist in refloating of HIBISCUS returning to Haifa on completion. (C. in C. Med. 11077/3 to N.O.I.C. Haifa, N.O.I.C. Haifa 2140/3 to PEONY.)

KAJMAKALAN.. DURMITOR. The C.O's of Yugoslav M.T.B.'s KAJMAKCALAN and DURMITOR expressed their desire to work with us. I have therefore sent these M.T.B.'s to operate under orders of C.S. 15. The boats are manned by their own officers and men and have British liaison officers. (C. in C. Med. 11150/3 to Admty.)

Air attack on CRICKET 30/6. Good work of South African small ships FLAMINGO and SOUTHERN ISLES each shot down 2 A/C's. (C. in C. Med. 11510/3) See Lion Copy.

Two 15 knot ships required. Campaign in M.E. has shown that Army seaborne supplies can only satisfactorily run in fast ships which can take full advantage of dark hours and fighter protection available. Supply to Tobruk is now being carried out by 4 V. destroyers and 6 T.L.C. as experience has shown that running of slow merchant vessels is too expensive in escort ships and fighters without producing satisfactory answer. Can 2 or more ships gross tonnage 1500 to 1000 with speed 15 knots or more be available. Requirement is likely to persist even when Tobruk is relieved as supplies to Beirut or elsewhere will be required by sea. Ships should be commissioned as H.M. Ships. (C. in C. Med. 11550/3 to Admty.)

/Merchant .....

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Merchant Ship in tow. 0906B/3. One Merchant Ship towing another unescorted position 036° 00' 011° 46' Course 10°. Expected to pass west of Pantellaria at dusk. (S.O.(S) Malta 1333B/3 to P.33.)

Glen ships. (1st S.L. 1539B/3) See Mediterranean Volume.

CANADA. High Commissioner, Syria, notifies that CANADA will be alongside Naval Base dock Beirut from 0700 to 1200 local time/4. and will leave Beirut for France at 0800 local time/5. 2. Request you inform R.A.F. (D.O.D.(F) 1556B/3 to C. in C. Med.)

Enemy Convoy. P.C. and S. of 5 enemy destroyers and 5 enemy M/Vs are 37° 30' N. 12° 0' E. 360° (? speed). (A/C 1612Z/3)

COLBERT. Supplies for Syria. Report graded B.2. states that Cruiser COLBERT and 2 destroyers left Toulon 29/6 for 15 days. Also report B.3. that French ship DJEBEL - DIRA due to leave for Syria 2/7 with guns, ammunition and about 50 officers and men. (D.D.I.C. 1705B/3 to C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta, F.O.C.N.A. C.O.I.S. Alexandria.)

R.A.F. Operations. Night 2/3 July. 3 Wellingtons bombed Beirut. 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi. 1 Wellington bombed Bardia. 2 Wellingtons bombed Elebeda and Derna. (H.Q.M.E. 1928/3)

STROMBO. Report A.2. Italian Tanker STROMBO will leave Istanbul 4/7 for Italy for repairs. (Capt.(S) 1. 1939C/3 to TORBAY, PERSEUS.)

PARTHIAN. Remain within 15 miles of Tripoli (Syria). If necessary to retire you should try and do so to northwards. It is possible Vichy French freighter will arrive at Tripoli (Syria) dawn/4. (C.S.15 1942/3 to PARTHIAN.)

Air Operations. 3/7 11 Sqdn. Blenheims 4 500 lb. bombs S.A.P. on Vichy ship in Chekka Bay. Bombs overshot 100 yards. 20 Sorties fleet protection. R/C Latakia Syrian coast to Beirut for shipping. (H.Q. P.& T.J. 2000/3)

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air Attacks on Tripoli.

R/C's p.m./2 Tripoli Harbour photos show two medium M/V's damaged by Wellington attack previous night, four troopships attacked by Blenheims. My 1.405/30/6 refers not in harbour. A.M./3. R/C Tripoli 6 M.V's outside harbour. One 6000 ton M/V ablaze from last night's attack. A.M. Patrol Cape Bon and West Sicily six medium M/B's four destroyers northbound off East Tunisian Coast. Six miles astern same convoy one small M/V towing another same course. A.M. Patrol Pantelleria Tripoli area small French M/V. Four Blenheims bombed four ships outside Tripoli Harbour. Two 5000 ton ships set on fire confirmed by photographs. Third ship still ablaze. Night July 2/3. As result R/C report medium M/V's lying outside Tripoli harbour, six Swordfish laid mines. Two others dropped two 500 lbs. G.P. bombs amongst M/V's from low height. Ships still outside today were attacked by Blenheims. Meanwhile 7 Wellingtons 148 Sqn. dropped two 1000 lbs. G.P. 1680 lbs. incendiaries on harbour facilities and shipping. Many fires. One ship in harbour set on fire. Photos today show all shipping away from quays and in stream. (H.Q. Malta, 2145/3)

Situation report 75.

Syria. F.O.C. 7th C.S. in F.O.C. 15th C.S. with PHOEBE and two destroyers have reinforced F.O.C. 15th C.S. for operation off coast. PERTH bombarded heavy battery East of Damur p.m./3 and effectively silenced it.
Western Desert. Destroyers running supplies to Mersa Tobruk have now been augmented by A. lighters. Capt. (D)10 reported submarine off Mersa Matruh at 2130/3. Result subsequent hunt not yet known. (C. in C. Med. 2241C/3)

East Indies.

W.S.8.B. W.S.8.X.

Disposal instructions for personnel ships. (D. of S.T., 0129CB/3 to P.S.T.O. Egypt) See Lion Copy.

Shatt-el-Arab.

My 2029/26/6. Iraqi Gunboats have now returned to Basra. (C. in C.E.I. 0504Z/3.)

MAURITIUS.

My 1144/29. Proceed now at 15 knots to position 009° N. 060° and then to Port Victoria adjust speed to arrive a.m./7 in daylight. Object give cover to shipping. (C. in C.E.I. 0304Z/3 to MAURITIUS.)

/Turn .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Con'd.

Turn round of ships in India. Your 0945/25. Ministry of War Transport are considering urgently with India Office, measures to be taken. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1703B/3 to F.O.C.R.I.N)

China.

CHENGTEAU. C.2. French sailors who deserted from CHENGTEAU report 5 bombs are kept ready to sabotage vessel. (C. O. S. Singapore 0837Z/3.)

America and West Indies.

Convoy Assembly. Your 1907Z/30. Expected that normally not more than 3 ships from Wabana will require to be included in any one convoy. To avoid delay considered that risk of ships waiting for convoy at Wabana should be accepted for time being unless you are able to berth them in St. Johns. Alternatively ships should be instructed to meet escort outside St. Johns without entering harbour. (D.T.D. 0643B/3 to C.C.N.F.)

BUTTERFLY. MAGGIO. LORRAINE. (i) Italian BUTTERFLY and MAGGIO left Pernambuco together 2130Z/29/6.
(ii) French LORRAINE was due to leave Casablanca 30/6 for Baytown. If intercepted she is to be allowed to proceed. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1039Q/3 to SURCOUF.)
(i) as above (C. in C.A.W.I. 1019Q/3 to DESPATCH, PRINCE DAVID.)

ELBE. STAD ARNHEM. Your 2305/2. ELBE sunk 8.6.41 in 25° 33' N. 38° 47' W. Dates of convoy leaving Freetown and dispersing correct. BARON NAPIER, OBERON, P.L.M.22 were in convoy, but no report has been received of them having been sunk. STAD ARNHEM was intercepted in expected position. Consider no suspicion need be attached to this ship. (D.D.I.C. 1156B/3 to A.L.U.S.N.A.)

N.V.S.Base Trinidad. None of the officers mentioned in your 1929B/6/6, and 1600/13/6 have yet arrived and with only two assistants staff is entirely inadequate for dealing with vastly increased traffic. (F.O. Trinidad 1247Q/3 to Admty.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Your 0951/2. Whether or not FURIOUS and convoy rendezvous, escort will be provided for ROYAL SOVEREIGN as previously arranged. (A.C.N.S.(R) 1513B/3 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

/T.C.12 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

T.C. 12 escort. R.A.3's 0837/1. Depending on intelligence of enemy dispositions intend MALAYA shall escort T.C.12.
2. If necessary to increase escort REVENGE will be used in addition and the exchange suggested by R.A.3 may then be carried out.
3. Exchange of battleships between Halifax and Iceland (c) entails very considerable A/S escort commitments and it is not intended that they shall take place at frequent intervals.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1552B/3 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

STAD ARNHEM. As A.L.U.S.H.A. 2205/2 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1722Z/3)

C.I.P. (French) My 2320Z/23 shifted to Bay Town 3/7 to load. (Galveston 1833Z/3)

EVERALDA. In view of altered situation request instructions regarding Latvian Lithuanian and Estonian ships. EVERALDA now at Trinidad loading bauxite for New Orleans under charter to Alcoa shipping company. F.O. Trinidad requested to detain ship pending instructions. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1932Z/3 to Admty.)

A.M.C. A.T.1212B/29. One A.M.C. from Halifax Escort Force is required to be at Freetown by 26/7 to replace ARAWA.
2. Suggest CIRCASSIA or DERBYSHIRE. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2020B/3 to R.A.3.)

SURCOUF. Asking if she can be taken in hand and that Yard for refit might be nominated. (Admty.2135B/3 to B.A.R.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.7.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY. (torpedoed 6/6.) Following 7 survivors picked up by Panamanian STANVAC off coast of French Guiana 24/6 and brought to Aruba. (N.C.S.O. Aruba 1501/3.)

Submarines Reported.

Am being shadowed in 52° 0' N. 23° 44' W. (SHROPSHIRE 1942/3)

Estimated U.B. dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1415B/3)

1750 G.M.T. By D/F bearings 305° 2nd Class. (F.O.C.N.A. 1909A/3 to N.A. Stn.)
By D/F within 40 miles of 47° N. 25° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 2044B/3

2120B. Hunting Submarine in position 000 degs. TP DD 25 x 16 sighted on the surface. (Capt.(D)10 2120B/3)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Bremen last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

Attacks on East Coast.

S.S. BALFRON was bombed and set on fire at 0030 off Ravenscar.

M/S Trawler AKRANES was bombed and gunned and sunk at about 0015 today off Flamborough Head.

Convoy C.E.40 was bombed at 2343 in 50° 55' N. 1° 5' E. No damage is reported.

Mining.

Operation B.S.67

PLOVER with HAMBLEDON laid mines last night in the East Coast Barrier.
This completes for the present a series of minelaying operations to reinforce the Barrier.

M.V. GOLDFINCH was damaged by mine at 0330B today off St. Bees and was towed to Whitehaven.

S.S. LUNAN was sunk today in 51° 26'45" N. 3° 10'21" W. The wreck obstructed the River Sly which was closed.

Belgian trawler O.265 hauled a mine in her trawl this morning off Berry Head, but the vessel was not damaged when the mine exploded.

South Atlantic.

Takoradi.

The port was opened today to traffic from all ports.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Heavy bombers.

The lines on which the Defence Committee consider our heavy bomber effort in the Mediterranean should be conducted were indicated today.

S/M Operations.

SEVERN reports that on ?23/6 she sank S.S. POLINNIA bound for Cagliari in 40° 5' N. 12° 8' E. and a southbound 8000 ton ship similar to LEME in the Gulf of Orosei, Sardinia. The violence of the explosion of the latter indicated that the ship was carrying ammunition.

UTMOST on 24/6 landed a party which blew up the railway line on the west Calabrian coast.

At 1350/25/6 UTMOST sank a 6000 ton westbound merchant vessel in 38° 7' N. 14° 37' E.

Libya & Western Desert.

9 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night and report a probable hit on a ship alongside. 6 Wellingtons bombed Tripoli.

Tobruk was heavily dive bombed p.m. today. No naval damage was caused and 3 or probably 4 of the enemy were shot down.

SAINT DIDIER sunk.

Vichy French SAINT DIDIER, believed to be making for Tripoli (Syria), was attacked by our aircraft during the day off Cape Khalidonia without success. At 1810/4 she was torpedoed and sunk by Naval aircraft in Adalia Roads. The ship was disguised as Turkish. One torpedo missed the target and struck the wharf, sinking 2 fishing boats and possibly causing casualties to the local inhabitants.

HYACINTH

HYACINTH grounded 4 miles south of Famagusta 1/7. She was unsuccessfully attacked p.m. today by torpedo and bombing aircraft. Three or four aircraft also attacked shipping in Famagusta.

Cyprus.

There were 5 enemy air raids on Cyprus today, three of them on Famagusta harbour where no damage was caused, however.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean Contd.

Palestine & Syria.

2 Wellingtons bombed Beirut docks last night.

Two Yugo-Slav M.T.B's are now operating from Haifa.

Information has been received by the Air Ministry fron various sources, that the Vichy French Air Force in Syria continues to be reinforced from France and North Africa.

America and West Indies.

MALAYA, the first of H.M. Ships to have action damage repairs in U.S. Yards is now ready for sea.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. AUDITOR dispersed from O.B.337 was torpedoed early this morning in 25° 47' N. 28° 25' W. (doubtful position)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Drifters for Iceland (c). 15 additional drifters are required request some may be sent at once. (N.O.I.C. Iceland (C) 1023/4).

Destroyers for Medn. NESTOR, JUPITER and it is understood HEYTHROP are all due to proceed to Mediterranean, NESTOR, JUPITER sailing from Clyde about 12/7. Consider these ships should be fitted with Oerlikons before sailing if possible. (R.A.D. (H.F) 1230B/4 to Adty.)

S/M transports to Medn. My 1902/7/4. Propose to equip a second PORPOISE class submarine for additional transport of liquid cargo. (F.O.S. 1544B/4 to Adty.)

Holyhead A/P. My 1754B/23/6. If withdrawal of patrol is approved will propose certain reallocations for other duties within the command shortly. (C. in C. W.A. 1714B/4 to Adty.).

FURIOUS. On return to U.K. FURIOUS will be employed as an operational carrier under the orders of C. in C. H.F. The following squadrons will be embarked. Arrangements are being made for the necessary stores to be supplied on arrival. (V.C.N.S. 1921B/4 to C. in C. H.F).

Defence of U.K.

Iceland Staff. Admiralty 0035B/29. Consider staff should be as follows. (A.C.I.C. 0917/4).

Movements.

FURIOUS, ROYAL SOVEREIGN, escort. VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA, PIORUN and WOLVERINE are to be sailed as convenient to meet FURIOUS (escorted by LEGION and LANCE) andROYAL SOVEREIGN from Bermuda in 045° 00' N. 025° 00' W. at 1100Z/8 (C. in C. W.A. 1236B/4 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

PRINCE LEOPOLD PRINCE PHILLIPE. Cancel my 2349B/2. (D.O.D. (H) 1312B/4 to C. in C. W.A).
Adty. 1312B/4. Cancel my 1526B/3. (C. in C. W.A. 1627B/4 to F.O.I.C. Belfast and Greenock).

TUNA TIGRIS. (a) Arrangements for sailing TUNA at 1100B/7 to patrol in Bay of Biscay South and TIGRIS to Clyde Escort for both LA CAPRICIEUSE. (Capt. (S) 3 1603B/4).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation D.N.

My 2332B/2. Request bomber co-operation. Anticipate Naval force will be in entrance to leads off Stadlandet at 0100/6. Bomber attack on aerodromes near Stavanger and Trondhjem when enemy bombers are taking off to attack would add to security of Naval force and increase diversionary effect of the operation. (C. in C. H.F. 1147B/4 to Adty.).
Your 2332B/2. Intend
(i) To pass Hoxa Boom at 0700B/5 proceeding West of Shetlands and through
(a) 062° 15' N. 000° 15' E. to
(b) 062° 15' N. 004° 40' E arriving 0100B/6.
(ii) Destroyers then to be detached. First divn., BEDOUIN and PUNJABI to sweep towards Silde Gabet and 2nd divn., TARTAR and ECLIPSE towards Vanelv Gabet.
(iii) NIGERIA and CURACOA to remain near position (B) until 0230B/6 by which time destroyers are to rejoin. Force will then withdraw.
(iv) Weather permitting NIGERIA's aircraft will be flown off to attack shipping in the (?Fiords) to north and south of Stadlandet during sweep.
(v) Withdrawal to be made along parallel of 062° 15' N. passing meridian of 004° E. at about 0315B/6 and 002° E. at about 0530B/6. S. of A. 25 knots. (C.S.10 1327B/4 to C. in C.H.F).
F.O.C. 10 C.S's 1327B/4. Request long range fighters may be held in readiness during outward passage and that long range fighter escort may be provided during withdrawal from position B. (C. in C. H.F. 1703B/4 to C. in C. Rosyth).
C.S.10's 1327B/4. Request A/S Air Escort from 0900/5 to 1600/5 to prevent force being sighted. (C. in C. H.F. 1709B/4 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Your 1147B/4. Regret neither Bomber nor Coastal Command are able to assist in the manner you suggest. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2257B/4 to C. in C. H.F).
C. in C. H.F.'s 1703/4/7 and 1709/4/7. Three Sorties of three, two and two Blenheims respectively will escort force on return journey commencing 0230/6. A/S air escort will be provided 5/7 by Whitley A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth 2356/4 to C.S.10).

U-boat routes P.31.

Routes taken by U-boats. Suggest P.31 should patrol at point off Fuglo. Coastal Command is aware of above intelligence. (F.O.S. 1519B/4 to A.C.O.S) See Lion Copy.

/S/M.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

S/M patrol west of Shetlands.

F.O.S. 1109/3. I consider a submarine on patrol to the westward of the Shetlands would prove a serious embarassment. The identity of any submarine reported in this area would frequently be in doubt and it would be necessary to place undesirable restrictions on aircraft and A/S craft. Suggest a submarine on patrol to the N.E. of Muckle Flugga would have equal chances of success and would not restrict A/S activities in the same way. (C. in C. H.F. 1539B/4 to A.C.O.S My 1539B/4. I concur with F.O.S. 1519B/4 para (D) (C. in C. H.F. 2209B/4 to A.C.O.S).

U.S. Identification Signals.

Adty. 1818B/22/6. U.S. Identification signals 11/7 - 20/7. (D.S.D. 1829B/4).

British Air Operations.

Searches and Patrols.

Following Air Searches will be flown today.
1. Search by three Hudson A/C between 0400 and 1000 of area C.F.L.J. 0000: C.F.K.G. 0000: G.F.L.J. 0000: G.F.K.G. 0000.
2. By Whitley A/C with A.S.V. for 24 hours from first light of area T.V.E.G. 0030: H.V.E.G., 3030: T.V.T.E. 0000: H.V.T.E. 3000. (C. in C. Rosyth 0150-/4).

Following patrols are being flown to reach Norwegian Coast at noon/4. TROST, STAB, BERT.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1028/4).

P.R.U. R/C of Bergen Stavanger and Kristiansand South now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1425/4).

Operation Nomad.

Up to four A/C to carry out operation tonight 4/5 July in area Borkum to Walcheren. Ships at sea only to be attacked. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1200/4 to Bircham Newton (R) H.Q.C.C).

Operation WANDER.

(C) Carry out operation WANDER tonight with two A/C of 59 Squadron. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1206/4).

Operation Roam.

Carry out operation ROAM tonight with 3 A/C of 22 Squadron. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1212/4 to Thorney I.)

Bombing Restrictions.

S.7's 0931B/3. Request T.B.R. may be instituted in a circle with a ten mile limit radius round 057° N. 01½1° W. from daylight 8/7 until further notice. (C. in C. W.A. 1240B/4 to H.Q.F.C).

/Attack.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.-Contd.

Attack on Bremen. 23 Wellingtons and 11 Hampdens dropped their bombs on Bremen town and only 3 Hampdens identified the shipbuilding yards and attacked them. A fire and explosions were seen here. (H.Q.B.C. T.H.I. 1414/4).

804 Sqn. In the event of second degree readiness for invasion being ordered propose that disembarked portion of 804 squadron should be placed under orders of R.A.F. Northern Ireland. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1729B/4 to C. in C. W.A).

Strike. 3 Beauforts have taken off to attack ships reported in A/C B235 1233/4. (C. in C. Rosyth 1808/4).

Enemy Air Operations.

AKRANES sunk. (M/S Trawler) Bombed and sunk in Bridlington Bay at 0015/4 approx. No casualties. (F.O. Humber 0109B/4).
My 0109B/4. AKRANES was attacked at 0004/4 in position 221° Flamborough Head L/H 1.6. miles. 2 bombs missed probably did no damage. Aircraft then opened fire with cannon and appeared to have holed the ship below the water line.
Attempt was made to beach her she finally sank at about 0030 in position approx. 229° Flamboro Head Light house 1.5 miles no casualties. (F.O. Humber 1528/4).

BALFRON. (British, 362 Tons) sunk. Bombed and set on fire 038° 3 1/2 miles Ravenscar at 0030. 8 survivors. 3 injured. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0450/4).
My 0450/4. S.S. BALFRON reported sunk approx. in position named. Survivors now reported as being seven in number with four missing considered dead by survivors. Names. Ship was sailing independently. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0655/4).

MALVERNIAN. (Bombed 1/7) Your 2352B/3. 052° 45' N. 017° 50' W. course 189 S. of A. 13½. (PERIWINKLE 0500B/4 to C. in C. W.A.).

C.E.40. Enemy aircraft bombing convoy BOSOM. My position 50° 55' N. 1°5' E. C. 047°. S.7. (BERKELEY 2343/4) Fighters are being sent to assist. (Dover P.W.G. 2353/4 to BERKELEY, COTTESMORE).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation B.S. 67. Operation B.S. 67 completed. (PLOVER 0735B/4).

B.S. Operations. The efficiency and accuracy with which the recent B.S. operations have been carried out reflects great credit on all concerned in PLOVER. (C. in C. Nore 1003B/4 to PLOVER).

Operation S.N. 67A. Propose to sail for operations S.N. 67 A. with 3 minelayers at 0530/8 and lay between (positions) a.m./9. 2 of 17th Divn. Destroyers are available request one additional destroyer. (R.A.M. 1109/4 to Adty., C. in C. H.F).

LUNAN. (British, 363 tons) Sunk in 51° 26' 48" N. 3° 10' 24" W. Traffic in the River Sly suspended. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1210/4).

Danger Area. Enemy minelaying suspected near 52° 31' N. 4° 47.30' W. and 52° 22' N. 4° 50' W. Shipping to give clear berth of 1 mile. (C. in C. W.A. 1235B/4 to F.O. and N.O.I.C., W.A).

River Crouch. S.A. 'L.L.' Drifter detonated 2 green mines at 1012/4 one cable and two cables outside boom, River Crouch. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1527B/4).

ROSME. At 1330/3 in approx. 51° 32. 9' N. 1° 4.2' E. Auxiliary Barge ROSME was mined and sunk. Crew picked up. ROSME was under sail at the time. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1548B/4).

Air Attack on O.G. 66 1/7. SCARBOROUGH's 1100B/1. On arrival of SCARBOROUGH and O.G. 66 request you will investigate and report, as to probability of parachute mines having been dropped. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1718B/4 to F.O.C.N.A).

Spurn Point. The following nine mines exploded today by Sweepers. Details. (F.O. Humber 1820B/4).

GOLDFINCH (Motor Ship, 454 Tons). damaged. At 0330/4, 250° St. Bees Head 10 miles, mined and damaged. Details. (R.N.O. Whitehaven 2305/4).

ROSME sunk. (Sailing Barge) Mined and sunk in Barrow Deep at 1330/3. Crew landed at Harwich. (D.S. 669).

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

FURIOUS. Admty. 1040B/1. Following damage caused by fire needs making good. (FURIOUS 1437A/4).

Shipping and Convoys.

JELLICOE ROSE. Have waited 40 minutes at B.1 buoy for JELLICOE ROSE who was 1 miles astern at B.5. Remainder F.S. convoy 30 have arrived. Intend to anchor north of A.M. Q.Z.S. 212 as visibility is deterior-ating. (COTSWOLD 0110B/4 to C. in C. Nore.).

S.C. 34. Congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. all the ships of S.C. 34. (C. in C. W.A. 0127B/4 to Cdre. A.J. Baxter R.N.R.).

H.X. 134. When escorts have met H.X. 134 and S.C. 35 detach 2 Destroyers of 4th Group to reinforce escort of H.X. 134. (C. in C. W.A. 1232B/4 to BOADICEA).

F.N. and H.C. Convoys. Forecast of sailings to 22/7. (C. in C. Rosyth ~~2103/4~~ 1203/4) See Lion Copy.

S.L. 77. Congratulations on bringing safely to the U.K. all the ships of S.L. 77. (C. in C. W.A. 2127/4 to R.A. W.B. Mackenzie.).

S.S. OREGON. S.S. OREGON in O.B. 340 developed engine defect and had dropped 40 miles astern of convoy by 2300/3. HAVELOCK reported insufficient endurance for convoy to wait. OREGON is therefore proceeding to Iceland escorted by NOTTS COUNTY at 5 knots. (BULLDOG 2212Z/4 to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Intercepted French Ships. Action to be taken to prevent recapture by French (Adty. 0130B/4) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

Convoy. Sighted 3 large merchant ships and trawler escorting dimly lit showing no colour P.C. and S. 038° 38' N. 009° 42' W. 170° 8 knots. (LOCH OSKAIG 0200B/4 to F.O.C.N.A).

EDINBURGH. Your 2254A/3. Submarine situation does not permit of EDINBURGH being used for this service and she should comply with my 1314B/3. (V.C.N.S. 1041/4 to F.O.C.N.A).
Informing her of enemy ships which may be encountered. (F.O.C.N.A. 1602A/4 to EDINBURGH).
See Lion Copy.

HERMIONE. E.T.A. 1700A unless further delayed by fog. (HERMIONE 1050A/4).

DEPTFORD. CLYDE. Orders to R/V CLYDE and escort her to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1133/4 to DEPTFORD.)

S.S. PEEBLES. Your 1838B/3. Master anticipates being able to maintain 8 knots. Am I to hold her to join convoy or sail independently. Ready for sea tonight. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1150/4 to Adty.).

GROUIN DU COU. Have parted company with GROUIN DU COU and arrive at Gibraltar about 2000A/5. (SCOTTISH 1205A/4 to F.O.C.N.A).

FURIOUS ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Re. Adty. 1041/4. Intend to sail FURIOUS SCYTHIA CAMERONIA escorted by HERMIONE LANCE LEGION FURY (?WISHART) 2200A/4, to R/V with ROYAL SOVEREIGN in (position) (time) S. of A. 14 knots. You are to comply with 1314B/3 from Adty. further signal will be made regarding your return route. (F.O.C.N.A. 1222A/4 to C.S.18).

/F.O.C.N.A.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

FURIOUS ROYAL SOVEREIGN. -Contd.	F.O.C.N.A. 1222/A/4 and C. in C. W.A. 1236B/4. To avoid estimated U-boat dispositions R/V is to be amended to 46° N. 28° W. at 1500Z/8. 2. FURIOUS and transports are to pass through 44° N. 28° 30' W. to the new R/V. 3. C. in C. W.A. to arrange for A/S escort to meet in new R/V and to signal inward route. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2337B/4 to F.O.C.N.A, C. in C. W.A., FURIOUS, ROYAL SOVEREIGN, C.S.18).
HERMIONE. FURIOUS.	Intend sailing HERMIONE with FURIOUS. HERMIONE E.T.A. Gibraltar 1700/4. (F.O.C.N.A. 1254A/4 to Adty.).
S/M Operations	F.O.C.N.A. 1336A/4. See Mediterranean.
0.21.	Orders to leave on (?) patrol at 2000A/6 for Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1408A/4 to 0.21).
Vichy French Convoy.	At 1900 3/7 off Cape Carvoeiro, warship and 5 M/Vs. course S.W. 6 knots. From 0840 to 0930 4/7 heavy firing south S.W. Sagres. (N.A. Lisbon 1509/4 to Adty.).
DAO. VULCAN.	On night 2/7 2 Unknown S/M's followed fishing boat from Island of Porto Santo to Lighthouse of San Lourenco Madeira. Leave 7/7 to exercise off Sezimbra returning 10/7. (N.A. Lisbon 1608/4 to Admty.).
GOS III.	Departure 1600A/4 for Freetown. Route E.T.A. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632B/4 to Admty.).
Enemy Unit.	By D/F on 7760 kc/s at 1410/4 G.M.T. unknown enemy unit, probable surface unit bore from Lands End 216°. Consider unit probably between 42° 00' N. and 45° 00' N. (D.D.I.C. 1716B/4 to F.O.C.N.A., F.O.(S), C. in C. Plymouth, 0.21, H.Q.C.C. SEALION, TIGRIS, C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F).

/MALVERNIAN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

MALVERNIAN. Request position in which LEGION picked up survivors from MALVERNIAN may be signalled and whether news of survivors unaccounted for can be given. (C. in C. W.A. 1955B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your 1955B/4 LEGION reports survivors were transferred directly from SCARBOROUGH. MALVERNIAN bombed in 047° 37' N. 019° 07' W. 2 boats were standing by ship which was still afloat when third boat was detached. She was picked up by SCARBOROUGH in 047° 50' 018° 50'. (F.O.C.N.A. 2239A/4 to C. in C.W.A.).

NYASSA. (Portuguese) has been intercepted and diverted to Gibraltar for control. (F.O.C.N.A. 2016/4 to N.A. Lisbon).

South Atlantic.

DESIRADE (French). Arrived Capetown 3/7. (Capetown, 0845B/4).

WILLMOTC Overdue shipping. WILLMOTO departure New York 25/5 for Capetown not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown 0858B/4).

BENDORAN PANDIAS. Overdue shipping cancel my 1058/3. BENDORAN arrived Capetown. PANDIAS due Capetown 30/6 from U.K. not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown 0917 /4).

Raiders. Your 1310B/7. (W.D. Note. 1308B/1 to F.O.C.N.A. evidently intended). Request list of raiders' names with corresponding numbers and letters sometimes used in Adty. messages CANBERRA'S 1740/5/3 states Captain joined No. 16 about 13/2. Your 1748/21/5 suggests ZAMZAM attacked by No. 46. W.I.R. No. 45 emphasises difficulty of visual recognition. Value of periodical precautions would be increased if reliability were graded. (C. in C. S.A. 1031N/4 to Adty.).

Enemy M/V's. Admty. 1900/2. Make what arrangements you consider necessary. Regret cannot give any further assistance with ships. (C. in C. S.A. 1405N/4, to R.A.S.A.D).

/CARNARVON.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

CARNARVON CASTLE.	Unless Rio de Janeiro indicates that any Axis ships are likely to sail from your Area, or there are signs of other enemy activity, CARNARVON CASTLE on leaving Rio de Janeiro 5/7 is to proceed with despatch to L.31 and watch for enemy ships leaving Quequen and Mardelplata. (R.A.S.A.D. 1423-Z/4 to CARNARVON CASTLE).
Raider methods.	Information obtained from an intercepted German raider. (C. in C. S.A. 1545N/4) See Lion Copy.
MANGKALIHAT.	Overdue shipping. Cancel my 0958/2 July. MANGKALIHAT arrived Capetown. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1601B/4).
KINGSTON HILL.	U.S.S. ALABAMAN arriving Cape Town a.m./5 reports having 32 survivors of KINGSTON HILL. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1645B/4).
STAD ARNHEM.	N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1722/3. STAD ARNHEM Master W.G. Deneef sailed in S.L. 78 from Freetown 19/6. Convoy was attacked on night 26/6 as stated. (C. in C. S.A. 1829N/4 to Admty.).
SINFRA.	Vichy ship SINFRA is expected to sail from Lome westbound between 5th and 10th July unescorted. (C. in C. S.A. 2033N/4 to MILFORD, GARDENIA, MARGUERITE, ANCHUSA).
ESCOLANO.	As Adty 0020B/2. (C. in C. S.A. 2111N/4 to S.A. Stn.).
CARNARVON CASTLE.	Unless Rio de Janeiro indicates that any Axis ships are likely (? in) (corrupt group) area, or there are signs of other enemy activity, CARNARVON CASTLE on leaving Rio de Janeiro 5/7 is to proceed with despatch to L. 31 and watch for enemy ships leaving Quequen and Mardelplata. N.A. Rio de Janeiro pass to CARNARVON CASTLE. (R.A.S.A.D. 2210Z/4 to CARNARVON CASTLE).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Haifa and Cyprus. Aux. Yacht torpedoed. Night 2/3 July. Vichy aircraft bombed Haifa. Damage unknown. 1 Vichy Glenn Martin shot down by A.A. fire. Cyprus. 2/7. 8 unidentified aircraft dropped about 50 bombs south east of Paphos. Telephone wires cut. 3/7. 1 Swordfish F.A.A. torpedoed auxiliary yacht in harbour at Castel Orizzo. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1043/4).

CANADA. French Hospital ship CANADA will be alongside naval base dock Beirut from 0700/4 to 1200/4 and will leave Beirut for France at 0800/5. If encountered she is not to be interfered with. -(C. in C. Med. 11380/4 to Med. Fleet, 22000/4 to S/M's on patrol).

Syria. French intentions concerning reinforcemnets. (C. in C, Med. 12080/4 to C.S.15) See Lion Copy.

Haifa Raid, Vichy A/C Destroyed. Ref. CAFO 587/40. Para. 4. Air raid on Haifa 2/7. Probably 5 planes. 2255 to 2355. Four H.E. bombs reported, slight damage to civilian property. H.M. Ships opened fire during attack. One Vichy Glen Martin shot down into sea. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1221/4 to C. in C. Med.).

ROVER. Details of programme. (C. in C. Med. 12260/4 to C. in C. E.I) (Amended, see 12410/5).

S.S. POLINDIA sunk; SEVERN reports unsuccessful attack on escorted merchant vessel off Palermo 20/6, and southbound Italian S/M ARGONAUTA class off Naples 22/6. She sank S.S. POLINDIA 1592 tons bound to Cagliari laden with wood in 040° N. 05' 012° 08' E. and southbound 8000 ton ship similar to LEME in Gulf of Orosei Sardinia on (? 28th) June. Violence of explosion possibly indicates ship carrying ammunition. A/S and (? air) activity again very slight throughout patrol. (F.O.C.N.A. 1336A/4 to C. in C. Med.).

/S/M.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

S/M Operations. Cruiser sunk. A.M.C. torpedoed.

UNIQUE reports sighting hospital ship VIRGILIO off Cape Spartevento 1/7, she was zigzagging drastically. UPRIGHT and UNION report blank. -UTMOST reports at 0245/24/6 made landing on Western Calabrian coast lat. 039° 10', charge laid in Q tunnel. Heavy freight train passing hourly. Charge failed to detonate under train, so line was blown up using Bickford's fuse. At 1350/25/6 in 038° 24' 015° 28' sighted expected convoy of four escorted liners southbound, they passed out of range to westward. 1200/26/6 fired two torpedoes at 6,000 ton westbound M.V. in 038° 07' 014° 37' one hit but ship did not sink. -Third torpedo fired ship sank. At 0001/28 in 038° 03' 014° 07' effected landing to blow up train but shouting of sentry ashore stopped party. 1410/28/6 three 6 inch cruisers escorted by 3 destroyers sighted steering 130° in 038° 15' 013° 35', enemy passed out of range. URGE reports at 0157/28/6 train observed to be blown up in tunnel three miles north of Taormina. At 0914/29/6 in 037° 55' 015° 35' two 8 inch cruisers escorted by four destroyers northbound 24 knots attacked at five thousand yards with salvo one mark four and three mark eight. Two hit at exactly correct interval, very heavy explosion after first hit considered magazine blown up. Immediate counter attack of 64 depth charges no damage. Cruisers considered to be GORIZIA and BOLZANO, two mark eight hit leading cruiser considered sunk. At 1410/2 in 037° 48' 015° 21' fired ? from torpedoes at 9,000 ton northbound A.M.C. escorting 4,000 ton freighter in ballast. A.M.C. zigzagging under constant helm. One hit forward and A.M.C. observed stop zigzagging and continue North at eight knots. (S.O. S/M's Malta 1350B/4 to S.1, V.A. Malta 1326B/4 to Adty.)
GORIZIA claimed still afloat in Rome broadcasts. URGE's cruiser may have been BOLZANO. (D.S. 672, 8/7).

C. in C. M.E.

Gen. Auchinleck takes over Command M.E. from Gen. Wavell at 0300 hours G.M.T. Saturday 5/7. (C. in C. M.E. 1352/4 to WarOffice).

Enemy M.V.

Position of enemy merchant vessel is 213 Antalyl (FORMIDABLES A/C 1435/4).

Heavy bombers.

Policy recommended by Chiefs of Staff. (1st S.L. 1505B/4) See Mediterranean Volume.

/SAINT.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

SAINT DIDIER. S. DIDIER was attacked by British Aircraft off Cape Khelidonia, 1030/4. (Capt. (S) 1 15310/4 to NEREUS, PARTHIAN).

M/V Movements Turkey. Tug RACHINE Istanbul to Mersin via Smyrna CECADENA Iskanderun to Haifa via Famagusta WARSZAWA. ANTAR Mersin to Haifa GEORGIA Mersin to Port Said MARGARITA Port Said to Mersin. (Captain (S) 1 15510/4 to NEREUS).

Air Activity. Malta C.S.R. to 1600/4/7. Hurricanes intercepted and drove off 25 Macchi 200's. Enemy did not cross coast 3/7. Northbound convoy 6 M/V and 4 DRS sighted off Tunisian Coast see my 1,411/3/7. Shadowed to Sicily.
Night 3/4. 7 Swordfish 830 Sqdn F.A.A. abandoned attack on convoy above due to enemy night fighters intercepting Maryland no combat. 6 Wellingtons 148 Sqn. dropped 1000 lb. G.P. bombs and 1000 lbs incendiaries Tripoli Fire and explosion near North Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1600/4).

ISIS. Salvage progress. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1723/4 to C. in C. Med.).

Benghazi. Night July 3/4. 9 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi. Numerous fires. Explosions Cathedral Mole and probable direct hit on ship alongside. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1854/4).

Air attacks on Tripoli. Op. Summary up to 2000 hours.
1 Blenheims 2 X 500 lbs S.A.P. bombs on small tanker Tripoli Harbour missed by 100 yards.
3 Blenheim 5 X 500 lbs. S.A.P. bombs R.K. small 2 funnelled ship Tripoli Harbour missed by 23 yards. (H.Q.R.A.F. P.T.J. 2330/4 to H.Q. R.A.F.M.E).

East Indies.

CARTHAGE. To leave Mombasa p.m./5 and proceed to Durban to arrive p.m./10. (C. in C. E.I. 0802Z/4 to CARTHAGE).

W.S.9.B. List sailed on 28/6, numbers, contents, etc. (D.O.D.(F) 1249B/4 to C. in C.'s E.I., S.A).

PRESIDENT DOUMER. My 1307/3/7 and my 1420/20/6. On completion of disembarkation Berbera to be sailed to Aden and Port Sudan to embark personnel for Suez. (P.S.T.O. 1307/4 to S.T.O. Berbera).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

French Units.

Saigon departures 22/6 for exercise off Camranh with AMIRAL-CHARNER, LAMOTTE-PICQUET, PEGASE. LAMOTTE-PICQUET only returned 26/6. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 0344Z/4 to Adty. S.O.(I) Colombo, Wellington, Hong Kong, D.N.I. Melbourne).

Lighters, Malaya.

Your 0401/1/6. Proposals approved in principle but suggest that all approaching vessels should also be prohibited either from entering territorial waters or alternatively from anchoring within territorial waters during hours between sunset and sunrise.
Considered that most appropriate moment to start these measures is when Japanese move indicated in Admty. 2313/21/6 takes place. Concert with Governor, put measures into effect immediately upon Japanese move. (V.C.N.S. 2357B/4 to C. in C. China).

America and West Indies.

Convoy Assembly.

Admty. 0642B/3. Intend general arrangements made in my 1401Z/30 to set precedent for normal practice regarding Wabana convoy. Previous message concur propose (1) Commodore of S.C. or H.X. convoy is responsible for effecting junction with Wabana convoy. (2) That Wabana convoy be given short (corrupt group) of W.S.C. on W.H.X. (C.C.N.F. 1036Z/4 to Admty.).

Japanese Vessels, Fuel,

Japanese Vessels asking for fuel (names). Rumoured all Japanese vessels ordered Home. Shall we supply? (S.O.I. Callao, 1313R/4 to C. in C. A.W.I).
Passed to you. Request decision. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2202Q/4 to Admty.).

STRATHALLAN.

Your 1202Q/28/6. Confirm why S. of A. drops to 13 knots after 40° W. (D.T.D. 1318B/4 to N.C.S.O. Trinidad).
Your 1318B/4 speed given as 13 knots by master allowing for heavy zigzag and weather. (N.C.S.O. Port of Spain 1333Q/4 to Adty.).

Troop Convoy.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1607/30/6 and P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 1735/30 proposed sailing date from Halifax is now. ( ).
(D. of S.T. 1320B/4).

/CHESHIRE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

CHESHIRE. CHESHIRE grounded in Narrows at Bermuda. Has refloated and returned to Harbour. PRINCE DAVID detailed as ocean escort to B.H.X. 137. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1402Q/4).
My 1402Q/4. No damage to CHESHIRE who is proceeding now to overtake B.H.X. 137. PRINCE DAVID proceeding in accordance with my 1041Q/3. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1831Q/4).

Local defence. Adty's. 2015B/27, 1631B/30 and 1349B/3. 4 A/S yachts will be based on Gaspe from 7/7. 2 Corvettes under orders of C.C.N.F. Force will carry out Y.Y patrol commencing 10/7 later force will be strengthened as necessary when ships become available. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1408Z/4).

C.I.P. (French). My 1648Z/28. Shifted to Baytown 3/7 to load. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1447Z/4).
My 2320/23. French ship C.I.P. left Houston 1430Z/4 for Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands, E.T.A. 11/4 and Martinique. (Galveston, 1834Z/4 to D.N.I).

PRINCE DAVID DESPATCH. 844. Cancel my 1502Q/4. Arrangements in my 1041Q/3 hold good. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1842Q/4 to S.O. W.I. Force).

DERBYSHIRE. Adty; 2020B/3. Intend sailing DERBYSHIRE for Freetown via Mona passage and Trinidad on 10/7. (R.A.S. B. S. 1543P/4 to Admty. etc).

RAMON DE LARRINAGA. British, capsized and sunk last February, has been salvaged and will be docked at Philadelphia shortly for extensive repairs. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2122Z/4 to Admty. etc.).

MALAYA. First of H.M. Ships to have action damage repaired in U.S. Yards is now ready for sea. Warmest thanks. (Private Office 2250B/4 to B.A.RnM. for Col. Knox).

Australia.

QUEEN MARY. Re. return to U.K. from Australia of 200 dissentient members of crew. (D. of S.T. 0412B/4 to A.C.N.B).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.7.1941; Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

AUDITOR. Torpedoed 25.47 N. 28.25 W. doubtful position (AUDITOR T.O.R. 0335N/4) British, 5,444 tons.

KINGSTON HILL. (torpedoed 7/6). Survivors (S.O.I. Capetown 1645B/4) (See South Atlantic).

Submarines Reported.

1935 G.M.T. A/C reported at1935 G.M.T. at 45° 47' N. 43° 02' W. doubtful sight contact periscope. (A.L.U.S.N.A. 0344/4).

1725 G.M.T./3. Periscope sighted by A/C 46 20 N. 42 17 W. course South. Made and lost sound contact with submarine at 0100 G.M.T./4 28 21 N. 49 56 W. (A.L.U.S.N.A. No T.O.O).

Estimated U/Boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1448B/4).

Off Madeira. Grade B.2. At about 0200/3 two unidentified submarines closed and escorted fishing boat from off Porto Santo Island to Point Sao Lourenco and then disappeared. (H.M.C. Funchal 1531/4, F.O.C.N.A. 1904/4 to MARSDALE).

1950. Am over enemy S/M in 47° 35' N. 166° 32' W. (?) Was sighted on the surface and observed to submerge (Port Z 1950/4).

Submarines Attacked.

By NASTURTIUM and GLADIOLUS. Decisive part played by NASTURTIUM in the destruction of the German U-boat on 27/6. (D.A/S W. 1556B/4 to NASTURTIUM).

By A/C. S/M on surface in 46° 50' N. 7° 26' W. Have attacked with D.C.s estimated hits nil. (Duty W. 1507/4).
My 1507. P.C. and S. of S/M 46° 50' N. 7° 26' W. 090° 15. (A/C 1520/4).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy coastal batteries at Cap Gris Nez fired 14 rounds in the early hours of today at Convoy C.E.40 whilst passing Dover. No damage resulted.

Operation D.N.

C.S.10 in NIGERIA with CURACOA and 4 destroyers left Scapa at 0750 today.

Photographs taken at 1400/5 show LEIPZIG still at Oslo, where EMDEN has arrived from Horten since 1/7.

Chiefs of Staff have approved the establishment of a Combined Defence H.Q. for Iceland at Artun in the event of invasion.

The 9th M.L. Flotilla will not be ready to leave Plymouth for Gibraltar before 7th July; and, trials having shown that one Destroyer cannot safely tow more than 2 M.L's at sea, C. in C. Plymouth proposes that VIDETTE should be added to the escorting Destroyers.

PRINCE OF WALES is to proceed to Scapa as soon as possible after her repairs at Rosyth are completed.

British Air Activity.

About 132 tons of bombs were dropped on the enemy warships at Brest last night and 64 tons on Lorient.

Attacks were made last night on Shipping in Bergen and Kristiansand, it is believed with some success.

One M/V of 3000 tons and another of 2000 tons are reported hit, and the former probably sunk, by aircraft on routine patrol off Stadlandet at 1642/5 and 1715/5 respectively, and a small escorted ship was hit off Alsboen Light.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Activity Contd.

At 1150 6 aircraft of Coastal Command were despatched to attack an enemy convoy of 3 merchant ships escorted by 4 E-boats, off Dunkirk. The aircraft attacked at 1315 and obtained 2 direct hits on a 4000 ton ships and estimate hits or near misses on a ship of 6000 tons. The escorting E-boats suffered some very near misses and were effectively machine-gunned.

The establishment of a Catalina anti U-boat Patrol based upon Plymouth is under consideration.

Enemy Air Activity.

At 1550 one Enemy A/C passed over Scapa Flow and probably saw into the Fleet Anchorage. Our fighters went up but failed to intercept.

A fishing vessel was unsuccessfully attacked at 0015/5 off Rattray Head.

SNAEFELL (Paddle minesweepers) was bombed and sunk about 2355 todsy off the Tyne.

Convoy C.E.40 was attacked by A/C early this morning without damage 3 miles East of Dungeness, and convoys "Scurry" and "Attache" at 2350 and 2355 respectively.

At 0230 today the British FOWEY ROSE, 470 tons, was bombed and sunk off St. David's Head.

Mining.

One Mine was detonated in the Tyne today, one off Milford Haven, and three off Spurn Point; and, owing to suspected Mines, the movement of vessels in the upper part of the River Usk at Newport is prohibited.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

FURIOUS, returning to U.K. in company with 2 transports and escorted by HERMIONE and 4 destroyers, was unsuccessfully bombed at 1954 today 100 miles west of Cape St. Vincent by 3 F.W. aircraft.

South Atlantic.

At 1450 G.M.T. today an unknown ship reported being attacked by a raider in 1° 18' S. 30° 0' W.

Mediterranean.

Malta. Bombs were dropped on Malta last night by about 7 enemy aircraft operating singly. No naval damage was caused.

Libya & Western Desert. Wellingtons bombed Benghazi and Derna last night.

HYACINTH was successfully refloated by PEONY today and proceeded to Haifa.

Alexandria S.S. BENCRUACHAN was sunk at 1730 today, presumably by a mine, whilst entering Alexandria harbour.

Palestine & Syria. 5 Wellingtons bombed Beirut last night.

America and West Indies.

S.S. PORT FAIRY reported a suspicious vessel at 1925 in 25° 6' N. 65° 27' W.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. ANSELM carrying Army and R.A.F. personnel for the Middle East was torpedoed at 0640 today about 310 miles north of the Azores.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

SVERRE NERGAARD. Intercepted 61° 49' N. 12° 44' W. and released. (NORTHERN CHIEF 2330B/4, 0335B/5, S.O.N.T. 0117B/5, 1023B/5, NORTHERN PRINCESS 0925B/5.)

N.E. Force. Consider units of N.E.F. should be organised in nine escort groups. Group numbers fourteen to twenty two with three spare are available for allocation by you. (C. in C.W.A. 1046B/5 to C.C.N.F.)
My 0928/5. For 2nd Escort Group read 1st Escort Group. (C. in C.W.A. 1627B/5.)

W.A. Escort Forces. It is intended to organise Western Approaches Escort Forces into 25 Escort Groups. Escort groups one to ten with three spare based on U.K. Fourteen to twenty two with three spare forming N.E.F. Request delivery groups and call signs may be allocated. (C. in C.W.A. 1053B/5.)

In event of German Agression against France. Your 1407/10/1, 1532/27/5, 1239/2/7, 1301/23/6. Request a consolidated version of the latest policy may be generally promulgated. (C. in C.H.F. 1532B/5 to Admty.)

Recognition Signals. Reference 2334A/2 and 4144Z/4.
The following will be at sea with incorrect recognition signals from 0001 G.M.T./6 until date shown:-
HOLLY, GOSII, KOS XII from Gibraltar due Freetown a.m.13th.
Trawlers of Western Patrol until a.m./11. NORTH--ERN GIFT 7th (not 14th), NORTHERN FOAM 9th (not 20th) NORTHERN PRINCESS 10th, NORTHERN SUN 11th, NORTHERN SKY 12th, NORTHERN CHIEF 15th, NORTHERN DUKE 15th, OPHELIA -, all of Northern Patrol.
TROUBADOUR PAINTER, HUDDERSFIELD TOWN from Belfast arriving Milford Haven 7th July.
CAPE ARGONA and COVENTRY CITY from Belfast arriving Methil 7/7. (D.S.D. 1918B/5.)

S/M Safe Area. My 1956/5. Request following may be promulgated by secret A.Z. message.
Surface (?vessels are) not attack S/M's in an area enclosed by latitude 062° 04' N. and 064° N. and longitude 005° W. and 006° 59' W. from noon 7th until further notice. (A.C.O.S. 2011B/5 to R.A.D. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Iceland.

My 0011B/10. Chiefs of Staff have
(i) Approved recommendation by the Commanders for combined defence headquarters at Artun in the event of invasion.
(ii) Taken note that present Army Headquarters at Artun and combined Naval and R.A.F. Headquarters at Reykjavik, will be retained for use in normal circumstances. (D. of L.D. 1051B/5 to A.C.I.C.)

Movements.

FURIOUS.
ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

My 1236B/4. Amend R/V as follows.
(C. in C.W.A. 0837B/5 to VANQUISHER.)
Sailed WOLVERINE, VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA, PIORUN, in accordance with your 1236B/4/7. (F.O.I.C. Londonderry 1555B/5 to C. in C.W.A.)
Detach one F. class destroyer forthwith to proceed to Ponta Delgada, Azores at best speed, fuel and R/V with FURIOUS as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. (A.C.N.S. F. 1496B/5 to Capt. D.S.)
Cancel my 0837B/5 and my 1236B/4.
(ii) VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA and WOLVERINE are to R/V with ROYAL SOVEREIGN in 049° 30' N. 027° W. at 1800Z/8th.
(iii) PIORUN is to R/V with FURIOUS in 46° 30' N. 25° 30' W. at 1800Z/8th. (C. in C.W.A. 1847B/5)

AUSONIA.
MALOJA.

Until arrival of next convoy from U.K. about 11/7 there are about 80 R.A.F. personnel only for onward passage to Halifax. Please confirm that sailing of AUSONIA and MALOJA may be delayed to await personnel from this convoy and then sail independently and unescorted for Halifax. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1109/5 to B.S.5.)

SOKUL.

Intend to sail SOKUL to pass Needles at 2145B/7 for patrol in Bay of Biscay South zone. Route. Diving by day. (Capt.S.5. 1144B/5)

9th M.L. Flotilla.

As towing trials with 9th M.L. Flotilla have shown that the Destroyer cannot safely tow more than 2 M.L's propose VIDETTE be used for towing in addition to FIREDRAKE, VIMY, and BEVERLEY.
(2) Owing to minor defects in towing gear, M.L.'s will not be ready to sail before 7/7 at earliest. Inclusion of VIDETTE will not delay departure. (C. in C. Plymouth 1521/5.)

/PRINCE .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. -. Contd.

PRINCE OF WALES. — PRINCE OF WALES is to proceed to Scapa as soon as practicable after repairs have been completed. (C. in C.H.F. 2253/5.)

Operations.

Convoy C.E. 40 shelled. — Enemy coastal batteries at Cap Griz Nez fired 6 rounds between 0036 and 0042 and 8 rounds between 0200 and 0204 when convoy was off Dover. No damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover, 0241B/5.)

Stadlandet. — C. in C.H.F. 2332B/2. Weather Forecast Stadlandet Area for period 0900B/5 to 2100B/5. (Duty Mat. Officer 0800B/5 to C.S. 10.)

Denmark Straits Patrol. — SUFFOLK is to leave patrol to arrive Hvalfiord a.m. 10th. (C. in C.H.F. 1029B/5.)

East Coast M.T.B. Patrols. — Weather permitting following patrols are to be carried out tonight by M.T.B's of unit 2.
(1) 60 foot M.T.B's from vicinity of Thornton ridge buoy to north eastward.
(2) 70 foot M.T.B's from vicinity of W. buoy to south westward. Surface vessels metveast of 1° 45' E. may be attacked without challenge. (C. in C. Nore 1108B/5 to BEEHIVE.)

M.T.B. Patrol. — Four M.T.B's leave Dover at 2230 to operate off Berck sur Mer and Etaples returning to Dover at 0445. Route via D. buoy each way. (V.A. Dover 1311B/5.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — Patrol Stand and Strikes on shipping in Bergen and Kristiansand now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0005/5.)
Patrol BERT now in operation. Patrols STAB and TROST will be flown p.m. today. (C. in C. Rosyth 1016/5)
P.R.U. of Bergen and Oslo now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1124/5.)

Operation D.N. — My 2356/4. Amend first paragraph to read :- Three Sorties of three Blenheims followed by one Sortie of three Hudsons commencing 0230/6. (C. in C. Rosyth 1120/5)

/Strike .....

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

Strike against shipping. 3 Aircraft with torpedoes will make Landfall at 060° N. 005° E. thence coastwise to Ytteroern Lighthouse arriving latter at 0300/6, thence returning direct to base. (C. in C. Rosyth 1254/5.)
My 1254/5 is cancelled owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 2046/5 to C.S.10.)

A/S sweep. 1. Three Whitley Aircraft will carry out parallel track A/S Sweep on a line 311° from Butt of Lewis to depth of 350 miles, reaching Western extremity at 2000/5.
2. Sunderland leaves Sullom Voe 1545 to carry out A/S Patrol of following area. (C. in C. Rosyth 1506/5.)

Bremen, Norderney Lorient, Brest attacked. Attacks during day 4/7. Details. (H.Q.B.C. 1405/5.)

Operation "Bottle". A.P.555/7. Repeat Operation "Bottle" at first opportunity. Effort six aircraft with Cucumbers and other available aircraft with bombs as diversion on shipping. (H.Q.C.C. 1455/5 to 18 Group.)

M/V's attacked off Stadlandet. R/C aircraft report hit with 2 bombs and probably sank one M/V 5000 tons in 62° 03' N. 04° 57' E. course 060° at 1637/5. One M/V 3000 tons hit in 62° 12' N. 05° 17' E. course 320° speed 10 knots at 1715/5. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1942/5, 2046/5, 2316/5 to C.S.10.)

Patrols
V.O.E. A.
V.O.E. B.
V.O.E. C.
V.O.E. D. My 2330/11/6. Add as follows. Details. (C. in C. Rosyth 2350/5) See Summaries Folder.

Catalina Patrol. Your 1257/2. The allocation of Catalina flying boats is now under consideration and your proposal will be considered at the same time. (1st S.L. 2949B/5 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy C.E.40.	Attacked by A/C 5 miles East of Dungeness. (V.A. Dover 0241B/5.)
Fishing Vessel attacked.	At 0015/5 one Heinkel attacked fishing vessel 3 miles N.N.E. Rattray Head no damage trawler proceeded. At 0051/5 Heinkel reported flying low over Fraserburgh Bay. At 0057/5 Heinkel reported off Rattray Head flying South. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0835/5.)
FOWEY ROSE. (British, 470 Tons) sunk.	At 0230/5 in 51° 51' N. 5° 28' W. bombed and sank. 8 missing and presumed lost. Names. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1524B/5.)
Scapa.	At 1550 E/A passed over Flow probably saw fleet anchorage. Fighters up but failed to intercept. (A.C.O.S. 1640B/5)
NIGERIA.	Am being shadowed by Aircraft. My P.C. and S. are (23?)00B 62° 15' (N?) 02° 38' E. 270° 25 knots. (C.S. 10 2314B/5)
Convoy SCURRY.	H elp SCURRY. 1 aeroplane. Position 5850 course 325 speed 12. (PRINCE ALBERT 2350/5.)
Convoy ATTACHE.	Help - ATTACHE - 53° 10' N. 1° 13' E. (JASON. 2355/5.)
DASHWOOD (bombed 25/6) TRANIO (bombed 26/6)	Position of wrecks. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2359B/5.)

Mining.

STRATHGAIRN. sunk on 1/7. (Trawler)	Skipper and five survivors landed Stornoway 2330/4 by Dutch Trawler CALISI LUTHER, five of crew missing. Skipper stated in estimated position 20 miles S.W. from Barra Head at 0900/1 in thick weather, hauled in mine in trawl which exploded 20 yards from ship. Ship sank in 10 minutes. Survivors on raft for 72 hours. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0010B/5.)
GOLDFINCH. (damaged 4/7.)	(Motor Vessel, 454 tons) Mined in position 273° St. Bees 10 miles at 0330B/4. Vessel towed into Whitehaven by S.S. BROOM extensive internal damage. Vessel leaking badly. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0225/5.)

/Operation .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining-Contd.

Operation Q.J.	My 1640B/2. Request you will carry out operation Q.J. tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore 0938B/5).
Tyne.	One Red ground magnetic mine detonated at 0912/5 in position 050° N. Pier Light Tyne, 12 cables. (P.M.S.O. N. Shields. 0947/5).
S.N. 67A.	R.A. (M) 1109/14. Concur provided escort can be made available. (A.C.N.S.H. 1021B/5). R.A.M.'s 1109/4. Concur. R.A.D. is requested to provide an additional destroyer. (C. in C. H.F. 1851B/5).
New Minefield.	A.M. 1821B/3. Concur. (R.A.M. 1125B/5). Your 1821B/3. Concur. (C. in C. H.F. 1200B/5 to Adty.).
Off Berry Head.	Belgian Trawler O.265 reports that at 1000/4 when trawling 8-1/2 miles S.E. Berry Head an explosion occurred in the trawl. Vessel was lifted and covered with sand and water and a column of water 80 feet high thrown up. No damage to vessel or crew. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1245/5).
River Usk.	Owing to suspected presence of mines movement of vessels in the river Usk Newport above a line joining Fifoot Point and End of East Pier at South Dock entrance is prohibited. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1552B/5).
Milford Haven.	At 1506B/5 /7, one Red Mine exploded by Sweeper as follows.(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1743/5).
Spurn Point.	The following three mines exploded today. One by Sweeper and two self detonated. Details. (F.O. Humber 1810B/5).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Oslo.

One light cruiser remains in Oslo but second vessel had apparently left Horten. Estimated photographs Oslo, Horten, Moss Frederikstad. (Pitreavie 1715/5).
Photographs taken at 1400/5 show EMDEN has arrived from Horten since 1/7 and is berthed near LEIPZIG which is still present. Turnover of merchant shipping continues. 10 M/V's over 200' including 5 over 400' having arrived since 1/7 and 7 M/V's over 200' having cleared. Fornebu A/D activity of transport A/C normal. (P.R.U. Wick 2100/5).

Co-operation with Russia.

Russian Northern Shipping.

Russian wishes and intentions. (Military Mission, Moscow 2000/5 to WarOffice) See Operations Volume.

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G. 66.

If WESTCOTT and ST. ALBANS have sufficient fuel to stay with Convoy until 08° 00' W. then WESTCOTT is to detach ST. ALBANS to join AZALEA. If not WESTCOTT detail one corvette. AZALEA remain with Convoy then fuel at Londonderry. (C. in C. W.A. 0809B/5 to WESTCOTT, etc.).

W.S.10.

Following vessels are intended. (D.S.T. 0211B/5).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

FURIOUS SCYTHIA CAMERONIA	Departure 2210/4 FURIOUS, LANCE, LEGION escorting SCYTHIA, CAMERONIA in accordance with my 1022A/3. Local escort WISHART until prudent limit of endurance, 0115/5 HERMIONE, FURY escorting until arrival position (C). (F.O.C.N.A. 0130A/5 to Admty.) Admty. 2337B/4. My P.C. and S. at 0130Z/5, 035° 58' 006° 16' 270° 14 knots. E.T.A. R/V 2300Z/8. Request confirmation position of R/V and Convoy. (FURIOUS, 0231A/5 to Admty.) Intend HERMIONE shall return Gibraltar when EDINBURGH joins FURIOUS and convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 1142A/5 to Admty.) Your 1222A/4. After EDINBURGH has joined FURIOUS, HERMIONE to proceed to patrol ordered in A.T. 1308/1, remain there 48 hours then proceed Gibraltar. (Admty. 1525B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.) Comply with Admty 1525B/5. Aircraft will carry out crogs over patrol approx. between 39° N. and 40° N. on meridian 16° W. on 6/7 as follows. No air escort available for FURIOUS and convoy on 6th. (F.O.C.N.A., 2108A/5 to HERMIONE.)
0.21	My 1036A/2. Leaves patrol 2000A/6. (F.O.C.N.A., 0908A/5 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
SULLBERG (German)	Left Barcelona 2nd for Marseilles. (F.O.C.N.A., 0938A/5 to S/M 0.23.)
Pyrites for Germany. GAYARRE (Spanish)	Following received from N.A. Madrid, addressed V.A.C.N.A:- "Huelva reports Spanish GAYARRE arrived 27/6 to load 5,000 tons Pyrites for Bilbao or Pasajes in German interest. Consul believes destination probably port in occupied France. Appears certain ultimate destination of cargo is Germany 1825/3" (ends). Although this ship will probably come under heading of a coasting vessel do you wish any action taken? (C.C.S.O. Gib., 1505/5 to Admty.) N.A. Madrid's 1825/3. Desirable that GAYARRE should be intercepted and sent to Gibraltar. (Admty. 1936B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
P.32.	My 1506A/3. Delayed about 48 hours. (F.O.C.N.A., 1508A/5 to C. in C. Med.)

/Ponta.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Ponta Delgada.	One destroyer will be calling 6/7 for fuel. Request supply may be expedited. (D.O.D.(F) 1533B/5 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)
Suspicious trawlers, Ushant.	Reported by our forces that two fishing trawlers flying Spanish flag one fitted W.T. sighted off Ushant. Believed to have been seen previously. Can you identify? (D.N.I., 1601B/5 to N.A. Madrid.)
French Convoys	1430/4 unidentified French Armed Trawler French Ships GABRIEL GUIST HAU PARAME SAINTE MAXIME course 160° 7 knots 180° St. Vincent 5 miles. 1242/5, French minesweeper ENGAGEANTE French ships BENTY KAKOULIMA both laden east bound. (S.O.I. Gib., 1803A/5 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)
GROUIN-DU-COU (French Trawler).	Sent in under armed guard by Western Patrol Trawler on passage Casablanca to La Pallice via Lisbon to Fish. Crew of 16 friendly disposed. Vessel detained pending instructions. (C.C.S.O. Gib., 1810/5 to Admty.)
NYASSA	Your 2016/4 Portuguese naval authorities would much appreciate release as soon as possible. Due to leave Lisbon with battalion of troops 10/7. (N.A. Lisbon, 2241/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)
REPULSE & Force H.	S.O. Force H. 2256A/5 see Operations Volume.
Enemy A/C	By D/F at 2050B/5. Enemy aircraft in 36° N. to 37° N. 10° W. to 11° W. possibly making sighting report. (D.D.I.C. 2256B/5 to F.O.C.N.A., FURIOUS, LANCE, LEGION, HERMIONE, FURY.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 5.7.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

BABITONGA — My 1935R/28/6. Believed that BABITONGA met raider also on 4/5 approx., position of ship from Chief Engineer's Log on 3/5 was 27° 31' S. 17 47' W. but no position is given for following day nor until 28/5.
(C. in C. S.A., 0003N/5, to Admty.)

Force Z — From 0001Z/9 EAGLE ALCANTARA and DUNEDIN will form Force Z. Instructions re signals.
EAGLE is acting S.O. Force Z.
(C. in C .S.A., 0331N/5 to Admty. etc.)

SULLBERG — (F.O.C.N.A., 0938/5) See Mediterranean.

HERMES (German) — Passenger in URUGUAY reports information received at Rio de Janeiro indirectly from Officer in German HERMES (A) HERMES made part of outward voyage in British Convoy (B) Although arrived Rio de Janeiro 10/4 all of motorcar cargo not unloaded by 18/6, yet ship was loading many barrels fuel oil.
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1113R/5, to Admty. etc.)

CRITON — Your 1719B/26.
1. Following extract from British Admiralty Delegate Washington's meter signal 2030/R/27 (begins) Dakar June 26th Boa reports from Conakry State CRITON recently captured by us was sighted by French planes or by a small French ship and after refusing to stop was sunk. Crew is at Conakry (ends.)
2. Following extract of intelligence received by telegram from Scarcies by Colonial Secretariat Freetown (begins) 24 of crew of CRITON believed rescued from sea by French taken to Conakry ends. ESPERANCE BAY reports CRITON was not able to maintain speed of convoy at 1230/20/6 Commodore ordered her to return to Freetown. ESPERANCE BAY gave her position 009 41 North 015 17 West at 1300/20. Sunk ship was not definitely identified as CRITON by BRILLIANT or aircraft but what could be seen confirmed probability.
(C. in C. S.A., 1549N/5 to Adty.)

Fuel for Japanese Ships. — My 1313R/4 ULOWAY MARU now asking for 200 tons Amir, 80 tons Talara. American Embassy requests we do not supply at Amir. Ships agents state Japanese vessels ordered straight home.
(S.O.I. Callao, 1635R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/CANTON.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

CANTON — On relief by ESPERANCE BAY proceed to patrol in H (?33) D and H 34 C. (?Enemy M/Vs.) left or leaving S. American Ports may pass this area.
(C. in C. S.A., 2041N/5 to CANTON.)

Takoradi — Your 2159/2/7 to S.O.(I) Freetown decyphered 5/7. Movements of ships in and out Takoradi started on 28/6 to relieve congestion and those outside for Freetown were sailed. Ships were swept in and out and from the movements took place daily. Position on 2/7 7 ships entered 8 left 6 outside. On 3/7 one ship was outside. On 4/7 port was opened to traffic from all ports.
(C. in C. S.A.,2121N/5 to Adty.)

VILLE DE TAMATAVE, (intercepted by DUNEDIN 30/6.) — My 2053/30. VILLE DE TAMATAVE arrived Freetown noon 5/7. Ship bound from Reunion and Madagascan ports to Dakar, Casablanca and Marseilles (cargo). Attitude of all on board friendly but pro Petain. No attempt made to scuttle. Captain refused to navigate but kept engineers at work.
(C. in C. S.A., 2131N/5 to Adty.)

S/Ms. Bissau — S.O.(I) Freetown 1740/2/7. Hudson aircraft carried out reconnaissance over Bissau on 24/6, nothing seen. I doubt accuracy of original report.
(C. in C. S.A., 2157N/5 to Adty.)

Mediterranean.

Situation Report 76. — Syria. 2 cruisers bombarding in preparation for offensive. French M/V SAINT DIDIER intercepted by A/C in Turkish Territorial waters off Cape Khelidonia at 0945 steering eastwards. Full reports of subsequent attack not yet available but ship believed sunk. Yugo-Slav M.T.Bs. DURMITOR and KAJMAKAIAN now operating from Haifa.
(C. in C. Med., 01130/5 to Admty.)

Enemy Units. — 2 Destroyers 1 merchant vessel 35° 02' 11° 52'.
(Malta W/T, 0520/5.)
My 0525 (Enemy Course and Speed are) 150° 10 knots.
(A/C, C, 2 Sqdn. 0624/5 to Halfar.)

/SULLBERG....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

SULLBERG (German) — Left Barcelona 2/7 for Marseilles. (F.O.C.N.A., 0938A/5 to S/M O.23.)

DJEBEL DIRA (French) — Reported due to leave Toulon 2/7 for Syria loaded with troops and material. (Description) (Capt. S.1., 1121C/5 and 1709C/5 to S/Ms. on Patrol.)

SAINT DIDIER Cyprus Raids — Operational Summary No.390 up to 1200/5/7/1941. Cyprus, 4/7, Vichy Ship SAINT DIDIER located off Cape Khelidonia and twice attacked without success by Swordfish. 4 Albacores finally torpedoed and sank ship in Adalia Harbour. 5 enemy raids on Cyprus during the day of which 3 on Famagusta Harbour. Two on Nicosia Aerodrome. Wharf and Customs House hit Famagusta but no damage to shipping and no casualties. No damage and casualties Nicosia. 11 Hurricane Sorties unable to intercept. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1127/5.)

STROMBO (Italian) — My 1047C/30, STROMBO awaiting sailing orders hourly. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1206C/5.)

ST. DIDIER Turkish Reaction. — French ST. DIDIER was located at 0845/4 6 miles west of Cape Khelidonia. T/B attacks during the day were unsuccessful until attack by 4 Albacore at about 1800 which scored 2 hits on ship in Adalia Harbour where she sank. Incident will evidently give rise to protest by Turks, but only hope of stopping French ships from coast hopping through Turkish waters to Syria is to deal with them whether they enter such waters or not. The recent illegal Turkish act in allowing the 2 Italian naval tankers URANO and TARVISIO to pass through Dardanelles might serve as a counterbalance to this episode. (C. in C. Med., 1215C/5 to Admty.)

UPHOLDER — Leave patrol p.m./6 by reverse of outward route to arrive off Marsamxett 0630B/8. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1225B/5 to UPHOLDER.)

ROVER — My 1226C/4. ROVER is now to sail on 7/7. Advance all dates 2 days. (C. in C. Med., 1241C/5 to N.O.I.C. Port Said etc.)

HYACINTH.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

HYACINTH refloated

My 1900/4 and my 1053/5 (N.T. in W.R.)
HYACINTH refloated by PEONY and SALVIA at 1030. Only damage beside A/S gear seems to be setting up by 1½ inches of 2 frames under No. 2 boiler. Making no water in spite of 3 very near misses by large bombs. Intend sailing her as soon as stores re-embarked direct for point 30 miles W. of Haifa (? Searched Channel).
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1315C/5 to C. in C. Med.)
N.O.I.C. Cyprus 1315/5. N.O.I.C. Haifa is to arrange escort for HYACINTH to Haifa and report on her seaworthiness. Fleet Tug ST. ISSEY is to return to Port Said.
(C. in C. Med., 2255C/5, to N.O.I.C. Haifa, etc.)

Malta Air Raid

C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 5/7. Night 4/5, 4 alarms about 7 enemy aircraft operated singly at 1600 feet. Bombs Hamrun Air Park, casualties. No service casualties or damage in other areas.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1716/5.)

PARTHIAN

Will not be available for refit on date arranged.
(D.O.D.(F) 1728B/5 to B.A.R.M.)

ST.DIDIER

My 1215/5. Appears SAINT DIDIER was lying in roads (? East) Adalia Harbour, had her name and French marking badly painted out and was flying Turkish colours. One torpedo missed target and struck wharf sinking 2 fishing boats, may therefore have been casualties to local inhabitants.
(C. in C. Med., 1931C/5 to Admty.)

Benghazi Beirut.

Night 4/5, 4 Wellingtons bombed Michele, Derna and Benghazi. 5 Wellingtons bombed Beirut causing large explosions and fires at Mourge D'Algue.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 2225/5.)

/OUED YQUEM.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

OUED YQUEM — Is en route for Syria loaded troops and stores. (Description).
(Capt. S.1., 2245B/5, to Greek S/Ms.)

Situation Report 77. — Syria. F.A.A. aircraft on recco attacked armed Trawler in Castelorizzo Harbour on 3/7. Torpedo missed but hit and sank a yacht and fishing vessels.
HYACINTH grounded 4 miles South of Famagusta on 1/7 and refloated by PEONY 5/7 now proceeding Haifa. She was attacked p.m./4 by torpedo and bombing aircraft without success.
Shipping in Famagusta also attacked by three or four aircraft.
Western Desert. My 2241/3, U-boat not considered sunk. Heavy dive bombing attack on Tobruk p.m./4 without naval damage. 3 aircraft certain and 1 probable shot down.
Both MIRANDA and ANTIKLA have unloaded and sailed.
Alexandria. BENCRUACHAN sunk outside harbour entrance whilst entering at 1730/5 235° 6 cables from outer breakwater light, presumed mine.
(C. in C. Med., 22590/5 to Admty.)

East Indies.

MAREEBA — MAREEBA is considerably overdue at Colombo from Java via Malacca Straits. She was spoken by DURBAN in 008° 30' N. 089° 02' E. at 2310Z/25/6. Her course was then 240°
Request enquiry at minor ports.
(C. in C. E.I., 0450Z/5 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

B.P.9.
KANIMBLA — Convoy B.P.9. 7 personnel ships, will leave Bombay for Basra on 10/7. KANIMBLA is to escort B.P.9 to 060° E. and then return to Bombay for quarterly overhaul of machinery.
(C. in C. E.I., 0814Z/5 to Cdre. R.I.N. etc.)

China.

French Visit Singapore — Might be advantageous if Jouan or other representative of Decoux were in Singapore at time Japanese take action. Request you will try and arrange such a visit.
(V.C.N.S. 0010B/5 to C. in C. China.)

/TINLEY.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China - Contd.

TINLEY Japanese Ship.	British S.S. TINLEY reports having been stopped between Hong Kong and Macao outside British Territorial waters on 28/6 and 3/7 by same Japenese Warship. Details. (Cdre. Hong Kong, 0309Z/5 to C. in C. China.)
KULMERLAND HAVENSTEIN URSULA RICKMERS	Yokohama arrival 29/6 an unidentified German Ship similar to KULMERLAND. Kobe present 1/7 a new German Unit, (details) unable to identify. Some activity among German ships, Chinese crews have arrived. Dairen, HAVENSTEIN has been manned by Chinese crew, URSULA RICKMERS will also take Chinese crew, believe both ships will sail to Japan under Japanese flag in near future with cargo consigned to Germany. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0313Z/5.)

America and West Indies.

T.S.R's. for C.A.M. Ships	Your 1735/18/6. T.S.R. aircraft will be employed for convoy protection and as hunting groups for rounding up raiders and supply ships. 12 carriers have been asked for capable of carrying T.S.R.'s or fighters. Intention is that 6 should carry fighters remaining 6 T.S.R.'s. The T.S.R. aircraft are required for 3 of the ships now being converted in America and 3 of the remaining 6 asked for. (Head of Air Branch, 0027B/5 to Brit. Naval Delegation, Washington.)
St. John's N.F.	Strength of force, staff, stores, etc. (Hd. of M. 0225B/5 to N.O.I.C. St. John's.) See Lion Copy.
HERMES	(German) (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1113R/5 ro Admty. etc.) See South Atlantic.
Swordfish for MALAYA	Admty. 1901B/3. Arrangements made for TUDOR PRINCE due to leave Trinidad 6/7 to bring Swordfish A/C to Bermuda, for MALAYA. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1153Q/5 to Admty.) Approved. (D.N.A.D. 1944B/7.)

/Latvian Ships....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

Latvian Ships. Your 1938Q/3. Latvian S.S. EVERALDA should be permitted to sail unless you have reason to suspect Master intends to abandon American coastal trade and make for an Axis-controlled port. Pending further developments other Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian ships should be similarly treated. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1251B/5 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

DERBYSHIRE. My 1543P/4. Intention was to use DERBYSHIRE for transport of personnel to Trinidad. In view of Capt. Egerton and other officers for your base being delayed at Halifax in Dutch AMATLKERK by engine repairs propose if you concur sail DERBYSHIRE direct for Freetown with these officers. (R.A.S 1446Z/5 to C. in C.S.A.)

VAN KINSBERGEN. Your 1241Q/2. Boiler cleaning should be done in U.K., destination of VAN KINSBERGEN will be Holyhead. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1525B/5 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

BARELEUR. FORT DE FRANCE. My 1142Q/2 and N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1611Z/2. Request early confirmation that voyage is approved and that future approved voyages will be notified before ships sail. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1542Q/5 to Admty.)

Suspicious Portuguese Trawlers. AUSONIA reports suspicious behaviour of Portuguese motor trawlers off Great Banks in approx. 046° 34' N. 050° 15' W. SANTA PRINCEZA, 1189 tons, appeared heavily overmanned and exceptionally deeply laden on 24/6. Suggest possibility of supply ship. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1547/5 to Admty.)

C.I.P. (French) My 1447Z/7/4. Sailed H custon 4/7 for Saint Thomas, W.I., with 4,625 of bunker C. and for Martinique with 1,450 tons each B. and C. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1621Z/5 to Admty.)

Daily position signal. Commencing 7/7 a daily signal indicating the position at 2000Z of ships within 300 miles of the Atlantic Coast of Canada and Newfoundland will be broadcast on 105 k/cs per second by V.A.S. LOUISBERG at 1800Z. (C.O.A.C. 1941Z/5.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.7.1941.
Saturday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

TIBIA.
KONGSGAARD. — Congratulations to Masters and crews on their fine achievement in bringing their ships safely to port after being torpedoed. (A.C.N.S.(T) Approved 1st Lord 00118/5 to F.O.I.C's Greenock, Belfast.)

KINGSTON HILL. (torpedoed 7/6.) — My 1645/4. KINGSTON HILL torpedoed 7/6 in 8.30 N. 5.0 W. (approx.) by U-39. Two torpedoes struck destroying W/T gear. Survivors rescued on 20/6 also two of ships life boats salved. 13 of crew drowned by swamping and one other died in boat. (S.O.1 Capetown, 1513B/5 to Admty. etc.)

ANSELM. (torpedoed 5/7.) — ANSELM torpedoed by S/M in estimated position 044° 20' N. 023° 30' W. at 0440/5. CHALLENGER has 970 and STARWORT 240 survivors. Propose transferring whole contingent CATHAY on making contact with daylight 6th. This would have been done 2000/5 but not met owing low visibility. After transferring survivors propose acting on C. in C.W.As.1157/5 and 1511B/5. (CATHAY, 23002/5 to Admty.) W.D. Note:- ANSELM, British 5954 tons, was in W.S.9 B. and had R.A.F. personnel for Takoradi and other Service personnel for Middle East.

Submarines Reported.

0115. — Am over enemy submarine in 46.52 N., 10.37. W. (A/C 75 Sqdn.E. 0115/5 to 19 Group.) Enemy submarine has dived. Have lost touch, last seen in position (as 0115) 050° 15 knots. (A.C.75, 0145/5 to 19 Group.)

Search. — My 0415/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Lysander A/C will co-operate in search at first light. (C. in C. Plymouth 0441/5 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth.) Weather permitting one Catalina A/C will co-operate in search about Mid-day 5/7. (C. in C.W.A. 0546B/5 to PERIWINKLE.) In 047° 37' N. 019° 07' W. (b) searching vicinity till further orders (weather). (PERIWINKLE, 0700B/5 to C. in C.W.A.) Have searched area 048° 00' N. 047° 14' N. 018° 50' W. 019° 20' W. in good visibility now searching to Northwards 50 miles front 48.06 N. 19. 18 W.Wther (PERIWINKLE, 2300B/5 to C. in C.W.A.)

/1120 .....

War Diary. 5.7.1941. Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported - Contd.

1120. One S/M bearing 320° distance 5 miles, 62.07 N. 15.15 W. steering 310°. (NORTHERN FOAM, 1120/5 1134/5 to Scapa W/T.)
Proceed with all despatch to hunt U/B reported by NORTHERN FOAM. (S.O.N.T. 1155B/5 to NORTHERN PRINCESS, NORTHERN SKY.)
My 1120B/5 chased S/M on surface unable to overtake. S/M at 1155 at high speed steering 310° in 062° 20' N. 015° 37' W. (NORTHERN FOAM, 1334B/5 to S.O.T.N.P.)
Following made to NORTHERN FOAM, NORTHERN SKY, NORTHERN PRINCESS. My 1135B/5. If all contact lost return to patrol. (S.O.N.T. Kirkwall 1631B/5 to A.C.O.S.)
No contact since 1155, returning to patrol. (NORTHERN FOAM, 1950B/5 to S.O.N.T.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1537B/5.)

S. Atlantic. Your 1338N/4, yes. Our appreciation was based on most probable course of U.Boat which sank AUDITOR and movements of one other U.Boat. (Admty. 1609B/5 to C. in C.S.A.)

21/6. Master of U.S. Ship LONE STAR reported to N.C.S.O. Trinidad sighting 21/6, 1530 ship's time, in 23° 20' S. 42° 45' W. large rusty S/M, one gun forward of conning tower, no visible markings. No attack or communication made. S/M proceeded slowly, course 70° A.1. Can you identify? (S.O.I Jamaica, 1621R/5 to S.O.I. Montevideo) W.D. Note:- Was Brazilian, see 1514/7.

2147. At 2147. G.M.T. German Submarines bearing 300° 2nd Class and 290° 3rd Class. (F.O.C.N.A. 2247A/5 to N.A. Stn.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

There were indications that two E. boats were operating off Dungeness between 0100/6 and 0400/6. This is the first time this year that E. boats have been in the Dover area.

M.T.B's operated last night between Etaples and Berck sur Mer.

British Air Operations.

A strong force of Blenheims detailed to attack shipping in the Heligoland Bight today encountered and attacked an intelligence screen of trawlers and light craft positioned across the Bight, destroying 5 and damaging 2 of the enemy reporting ships.

Later in the day 2-3000 ton Flakships off the Dutch coast were attacked; one is claimed as destroyed and another damaged.
11 aircraft attacked Rotterdam docks last night.

Enemy Air Operations.

East Coast. Convoy E.C.42 was attacked at 0130 today in clear bright moonlight in 53° 6' N. 1° 26' E. and shot down the attacking aircraft, S.S. TETELA claiming this success. S.S. NORTH DEVON was damaged.

A/P Trawler JENNIFER was bombed and damaged at 0230 off the Lincolnshire coast by 4 aircraft and was beached at Trusthorpe. F.S.33 was attacked shortly after midnight 5/6 July near Sheringham Buoy; Swedish S.S. BIRGITTA was damaged.

Convoy F.N.89 was bombed at 2044 25 miles N.E. of Cromer. No damage is reported.

Irish Sea. HAYDAY Steam Trawler 4.B was attacked near St. Govens Lightship at 2306.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

East Coast. Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected in the Humber, off Yarmouth, in the Thames Estuary and between Strumbles Head and Milford Haven. HOLDERNESS was damaged by a mine at midnight 5/6 July off Flamborough Head. Mines were detonated today in the Humber.
6 aircraft laid mines last night off St. Nazaire and 4 off Brest.

Mediterranean.

Malta. Bombs were dropped on Malta last night by a few aircraft. No damage or casualties occurred.

R.A.F. Attack on shipping at Palermo. 6 aircraft attacked shipping in Palermo harbour this afternoon. It is reported that the following damage was caused:-
One 10,000 ton ship 2 hits, apparently breaking her back. One 10,000 ton ship 3 hits, resulting in fire, explosions and dense volumes of smoke. One 8000 ton, one 5000 ton, one 2000 ton ship hit and one 3000 ton ship hit with incendiaries.

S/M Operation. Four V. class submarines are to carry out special operations which are reported by Comdr.(S) 1 today.

Libya and Western Desert. Tug C.307 shot down her second aircraft in an air raid on Tobruk at 0945 today.

Suez Canal. About 6 enemy aircraft raided the Canal area between 0040 and 0400C today. Bombs and mines were dropped on shore, but no mines fell in the Canal. No damage or casualties were caused. PASS OF BALMAHA was slightly damaged by a near miss.

French M.V. attacked. A Beaufighter today attacked and damaged with cannon gun a 2000 ton French merchant ship 10 miles East of Rhodes.

/Palestine ....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Palestine and Syria. Effective Naval support was given today to the Army in its advance on Damur, though cloud and mist rendered observation of fire difficult.

China.

Ships to proceed via Panama. In order to reduce the volume of shipping in the South Atlantic arrangements have been made for a number of ships in the Far Eastern trade to proceed in future via Panama instead of the Cape.

America and West Indies.

Bermuda has ceased to be a convoy assembly port.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

JUPITER.
NESTOR.
HEYTHROP.

Your 1230B/4. Arrangements are being made to equip JUPITER and NESTOR with two Oerlikons each when at Clyde. HEYTHROP will also be fitted before departure. NESTOR to have positions prepared while at Clyde. (D.T.S.D. 0912B/6 to R.A.D. H.F).

4th D.F.

Your 1558/5. Ships will operate as one force when lent to other commands, as far as practicable. -The operation of the four ships of 4th D.F. since 30/5 has been as follows. Details.
(2) From these records it appears that in the last 38 days COSSACK and SIKH have spent 23 days on Convoy work, MAORI 20 days and ZULU 7 days, this is somewhat less that the average of W.A. escort Groups. All ships which have been serviceable have operated together.
(3) As COSSACK and SIKH are boiler cleaning and ZULU is refitting, MAORI is the only packet at sea, and this is the only occasion on which a part of the 4th D.F. has been at sea without D.4 being in command. (C. in C. W. A. 1428B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

108th M.L. Flotilla.

On completion boats of 108th M.L. Flotilla are to assemble on Clyde where they may be used for A/S patrols until an opportunity occurs for shipment abroad but no delay in their release can be accepted. (D. of L.D. 1804B/6).

Intercepted French Ships.

Intercepted French ships are to be routed into port or to join convoy with due regard to possibility of recapture especially if they have broken W/T silence.
(ii) Ship is to be sunk if engine sabotaged or is to be scuttled and usual distress signal made if recapture imminent when under armed guard.
(iii) Authority to sink is dependent on passenger, crew and ship's papers having been removed or their safety assured in accordance with International Law. (F.O.C.N.P. 2230B/6 to Western Patrol).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

CATHAY.
CHALLENGER.
STARWORT.
PETUNIA.

Your 2300Z/5. Concur in your continuing to Freetown with all troops. If water situation makes this impossible arrange by W/T with Capt. D (8) in FAULKNOR, who arrives Ponta Delgada 1030B/6 for fuel, to escort you to join FURIOUS in 41° N. 22° 15' W. at 1000Z/7 and return with her to U.K. Report your intentions. (A.C.N.S. F. 0810B/6 to CATHAY).
My 0930Z/6. When LAVENDER rejoins me CHALLENGER, STARWORT, PETUNIA proceed Ponta Delgada to fuel arriving a.m. 8th. PETUNIA then proceeds as in C. in C. W.A. 1157/5. CHALLENGER with STARWORT to proceed independently routed by F.O.C.N.A. STARWORT'S asdic broken down and CHALLENGER maximum speed 12½ knots. Water situation satisfactory. MORETON BAY not required. (CATHAY 0935Z/6).
A.M. 0810B/6. MORETON BAY can be sent to join you if this would assist continuing to Freetown. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0956B/6 to CATHAY).

SHERWOOD.

SHERWOOD arrived. Intend sailing her independently for Clyde as soon as possible. Large numbers of steam leaks and failure of one evaporator produces loss of feed water of 20 tons per day. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1057B/6).

4th M.L. Flotilla.

Admiralty's 1529/21. No destroyer escort to Iceland can be provided for the present. (A.C.O.S. 1145B/6).

? Operation D.N.

C.S. 10 in NIGERIA with BEDOUIN, PUNJABI, TARTAR, ECLIPSE, CURACOA. (A.C.O.S. 1330/6).

INTREPID.
ANTELOPE.
HEATHER.
MIMOSA.

When OTTAWA and escort from Iceland join, INTREPID and ANTELOPE are to return to Scapa. HEATHER is to return direct to Holyhead. MIMOSA is to proceed Halifax with convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 2312B/6).

Operations.

SEALION.

Patrol in Bay of Biscay South zone South of Lat. 046° N. (F.O.S. 1031B/6 to SEALION).

Biscay S/M Patrol.

Following signals from F.O.S. which established numbered positions in Bay of Biscay are cancelled 2014/22/3. 1236/27/3. 1736/29/3. (F.O.S. 1228B/6).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Fighter Protection. "Intend to sail" signals for Convoys between Flamouth and Dartmouth will, as a trial, be taken as automatic requests for Fighter Protection -Such signals to be in following form. (C. in C. Plymouth 1108/6); See Lion Copy.

Patrol. Three aircraft with torpedoes now carrying out STAND patrol. (C. in C. Rosyth 1446/6). My 1446/6. Nothing sighted. (C. in C. Rosyth 1919/6).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S. 33. BIRGITTA (Swedish, 1363 Tons), damaged. Shortly after midnight 5/6 in 53° 5'N. 1° 19' E. 3 miles South of Sheringham Buoy BIRGITTA was damaged. Has been towed to Yarmouth by BASSET and Tug RICHARD LEE BARBER. Casualties not yet reported. (HOLDERNESS 0037/6). (C. in C. Nore 0141B/6 to BASSET) (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0320B/6). (C. in C. Nore 1214B/6).

Convoy E.C. 42. NORTH DEVON (British, 3658 Tons) damaged. Damaged by near misses shortly after midnight 5/6 near 57A. Buoy. Arrived in Humber in tow of Tugs KROOMAN and DIVERSION at 1500/6. 10 survivors landed Lowestoft by M.L. 193, and 3 at Humber by MEYNELL. 5 dead. One Aircraft brought down 0130. S.S. TETELA claims this success. (EGLINTON 0145B/6, 1244B/6) (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0240B/6). (MEYNELL 0254B/6, 0317B/6, 0920/6) (C. in C. Nore 1214B/6, 1239/6). (F.O. Humber 1515B/6, 2207B/6).

SNAEFELL (Paddle Minesweeper) sunk. Bombed and sunk by enemy aircraft at about 2355/5 near 20 A buoy. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0535/6).

JENNIFER damaged. (A/P Trawler). Attacked by enemy aircraft at 0230 today. Aircraft dropped four bombs at least, one of which hit her. Ship was beached at Trustthorpe. Chief Engineer missing, remainder of crew safe. (F.O. Humber 0859B/6).

Convoy 'Casing'. Enemy bombing 'Casing' 52° 57' N. 2° E. (VERSATILE 2044/6).
My 2044. No attack developed 2 enemy aircraft turned back by A/A fire. (VERSATILE 2140B/6).

Steam Trawler 4 B. Attacked by Enemy Aircraft S.E. St. Govans Lightship. (Nore W/T 2306/6).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N. 67A. — Intend to sail SCOTT for operation S.N. 67A at 0600/7. (R.A.M. 1117B/6).

S.A. Destroyers for East Coast. — Your 1924B/22/6. Shortest notice for WAIRS 24 hours, for HUNTS 48 hours. Trials are being carried out to ascertain whether the latter time can be improved on. (C. in C. Rosyth 1234/6 to Adty.)

LUNAN. (Mined 4/7). — Position of Wreck. Salvage impossible. Request dispersal of wreck be authorised. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1634B/6).

Spurn Point. — The following four mines exploded today. Details. (F.O. Humber 2012B/6).

Enemy Intelligence.

Warship movements. — Rumours of recent arrival of German Warships at Copenhagen from Kiel still persist even from good sources. Confirmation and details are lacking. (N.A. Stockholm 1125/6).

E-Boats off Dungeness. — There are indications that two E-boats were operating off Dungeness between 0100 and 0400 today. This is the first time this year that E-boats have been in Dover area. Request that convoy escorts and other vessels making the passage may be warned. (V.A. Dover 1314B/6).

Casualties and Defects.

AMBUSCADE. — Has developed leaks in main condensers. This will delay sailing and cancel all previous programmes. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 2021/6).

Shipping and Convoys.

Firing at unseen A/C. — Opening of blind fire by merchant ships on sound alone of aircraft overhead to be discouraged. Such fire may even attract enemy aircraft to a convoy not previously located. (C. in C. Rosyth 1230/6 to Admty.).

/Lights.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

Lights.

Pilots of fighter aircraft escorting convoys after dark report R.A.F. personnel are able to locate convoy from light displayed. N.C.S.Os. to bring this to notice of masters. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2235/6, to N.C.S.O's, Rosyth Cmd.).

Portuguese and Spanish Ports.

Ref. N.C.S.I. 122 para. 2 (a), in future if numbers warrant and sufficient escorts are in company, S.O. of Escort in consultation with Commodore of Convoy has discretion to detach an escort with those ships bound for Portuguese or Spanish ports West of Gibraltar so as to arrive off Cape St. Vincent after dark.
Importance of keeping inside territorial waters after being detached is to be specially emphasized. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2335B/6 to N.C.S.O's).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Ponta Delgada. My 1533B/5, destroyer will arrive 1030B/6 and will also require dry provisions. (D.O.D.(F) 0007B/6).

CARLIER. Seized by French, is proceeding Dakar to Bordeaux. If intercepted outside territorial waters and unescorted she is to be sent in. (F.O.C.N.A. 0042B/6 to N.A. Stn.).
Your 0042B/6. Request date CARLIER left Dakar, etc. (D.D.I.C. 1755B/6 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Your 1755B/6. Following from N.C.S.O. Lisbon addressed S.O.(I) Gib. Belgian CARLIER seized by French is proceeding from Dakar to Bordeaux with cargo of groundnuts. Exact date when she sailed not known. A.1. 1815/5 (Ends).
(F.O.C.N.A., 2046A/6 to Admty.).

SCYTHIA pigeon incident. Following received from FURIOUS. Pigeon released from SCYTHIA by unknown passenger at 1200. Broadcast to all concerned if route is to be changed. 2212. (Ends). (F.O.C.N.A., 0549A/6 to Admty.).
Your 0549A/6. A.T. 1516B/5 altering the route was after the departure of pigeon. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1552B/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Convoy. Passings 5/7. French westward LEOPOLD-L-D eastward KAKOULIMA BENTY both full. My 0925/5 add French eastward SURVILLE MONTAIGNE GRAND-QUEVILLY all full. (V.A.C.N.A., 0919A/6 to Admty. for M.E.W.).

0.21. IMPERIALIST. Proceed through position (F) 038° 30' 011° 00' then in accordance with my 1408A/4. IMPERIALIST patrolling vicinity 038° 30' 009° 45' for U-boats, very unreliable report, fuel on 7th. (F.O.C.N.A. 1106A/6 to O. 21.).

TALISMAN. THUNDERBOLT. Route on N.A. Station. (F.O.C.N.A., 1206A/6).

Mines, Genoa. 2 Spanish ships have been sunk presumably by mines in vicinity of Genoa between 15/6 and 27/6. (S.O.I. Gib. 1314A/6 to C. in C. Med.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Freetown. Following are only details to be given to Masters of vessels entering Freetown. (Freetown 1020N/6 to Adty.).

GAZCON. (Vichy). QUEEN OF BERMUDA is patrolling off Lobito in order to intercept Vichy French GAZCON expected to sail any time after 3/7. (C. in C. S.A., 1105N/6 to DRAGON).

Raider Intelligence. Your 1031N/4. Reply. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1247B/6 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.

VILLE DE TAMATAVE. My 2131/5. Request early information action to be taken regarding ship and cargo. (C. in C. S.A. 1314N/6 to Admty.).

DERBYSHIRE. Your 1543/4 not received. Your 1446/5. Concur, this will be of great assistance. (C. in C. S.A. 1905N/6 to R.A.3).
R.A.3 1626/2 and 1543P/4. Proposal approved, and sailing date of DERBYSHIRE noted. Second ship should be sailed not later than 6/8. WORCESTERSHIRE E.T.A. Halifax approx. 9/8. Third ship should be sailed when ALAUNIA is ready for service but not later than 20/8.(D.C.D.(H) 2300B/6 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.3).

LIKOMBA. My 1231/1. MILFORD is to leave Lagos at 0800/7 and proceed to patrol in vicinity of Fernando Po to intercept LIKOMBA should vessel leave. On passage to patrol area investigate about 05° 15'N. 04° 32' E. NEW BROOKLYN reported sighting periscope at 2125/?25. (C. in C. S.A. 2345N/6, to MILFORD).

Mediterranean.

Enemy M/V. Following has been read, addressed A/C of N.635 Sqn. from A/C on duty R. P.C. and S. of 1 M.V. 36° 30' N. 28° 18' E, course 070°. speed 10 knots. (Malta W/T, 0830/6 to Med. Fleet).
One enemy merchant ship should pass Castelorizo eastbound 1500C/6. (Capt. S.1. 09310/6 to Greek S/M NEREUS).

/Cyprus.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Cyprus, Bombed.	Op. Summ. No. 391. Cyprus 5/7. Famagusta Harbour and Nicosia aerodrome each bombed by single Vichy Glenn Martin. No damage or casualties.
Benghazi bombed.	Continuation My A. 882, 5/7, night 4/5 additional 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Derna El Adem and Bir en Ngar. (H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1034/6).
PASS OF BALMAHA.	Sustained slight damage from near miss. Estimate repair complete 10/7. (D.S.T.O. Alexandria, 1053/6 to D. of S.T.).
S/M's.	Proposed operations. (Cdr. S.1, 1130B/6 to Capt. S.1). See Mediterranean Volume.
Air raid on Suez Canal.	About 6 enemy A/C raided Canal area in 2 waves between 0040 and 0400/6. No mines in canal. Traffic proceeding normal. Number of small bombs dropped near east bank between k.m.s. 140 and 141. Five large bombs or mines exploded ashore between k.m.s. 134 and 150.4. One UX.B. at k.m. 151.4 and 1 UX.B. or UX.M. at k.m. 99 clear of channel. Activity over Northern part Gulf Suez was slight. No considered minelaying took place. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 11130/6, 18010/6).
TRIUMPH.	To remain on patrol until 12th and arrive Alexandria 17th. (Capt. S.1, 1215C/6 to TRIUMPH).
KIPLING.	N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik 1205/4 KIPLING should be sailed for Alexandria immediately trials are completed on 10/7. (C. in C. Med., 1259C/6 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal).
Malta Air Raid.	Malta C.S.R. to 1600 hours. 6/7. Night 5/6, 4 alarms 10 enemy aircraft. Only 3 crossed coast, no damage or casualties. Most bombs fell into sea.
Raid on Palermo Shipping.	6 aircraft 10 Squadron led by W/Cdr. Hunt carried brilliant attack on shipping Palermo Harbour 1400/6 local time. Approach made by sea. Return over Sicily. Complete surprise. Hits scored on M.Vs. as follows: 10,000 tonner, 2 hits apparently breaking her back. 10,000 tonner, 3 hits resulting in fire explosions and dense volumes of smoke. 8,000 tonner, none hit. 8,000 tonner, 2 hits. 5,000 tonner 1 hit. 3,000 tonner hit with incendiaries. 2,000 tonner, 1 hit. All ships bunched together in 2 rows making it almost impossible to miss. All Rear Gunners with twin guns and pilots with frontguns fired into CRS., DRS., and harbour establishments. Large explosion seen near dry dock. Total confusion in harbour and outside. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta, 1600/6, 2310/6).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

HYACINTH. Has arrived Haifa, quite seaworthy but will require new dome and oscillator. Can steam 16 knots. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 17350/6 to C. in C. Med.).
If HYACINTH is seaworthy, sail her for Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 18080/6 to N.O.I.C. Haifa).

Beirut. My 1003/6. (N.T. in W.R). R/C this afternoon reports no (? Warship) present at Beirut. (F.O. 15 C.S., 17410/6 to C. in C. Med.).

Ships for Army Supplies. Your 11550/3. Will PRINCE BADOUIN, VICTORIA, MANXMAN offered in Admty. 1140B/1 and ANTWERP and MALINES in Admiralty 1722B/10 meet your requirements? (A.C.N.S. (F) 1832B/6 to C. in C. Med.).

Tripoli. Analysis from photos of wrecks and derelicts at Tripoli. (V.A. Malta, 1915B/6 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Syria, Bombardments by C. S.7. Request ships may be in support off Coast at 1330/7. Bombarding arrangements. (N.L.O. Palestine, 19540/6 to C.S.15).
Intend to be in position ready to fire at 1430/7 and wish to leave by 1730. Does this suit Militar; -Request target and reply as early as possible since necessary arrangements cannot be put forward at last minute. (C.S. 7, 2301/6 to N.L.O. Palestine).

East Indies.

FULTALA. Have you any news of FULTALA due Calcutta 27/6? (D.T.D. 1801B/6 to S.O.(I) Bombay).

China.

MARIE MOLLER stopped by Japanese S/M. On passage from Shanghai, stopped and boarded on 2/7 by Japanese submarine No./3 in 24° 22' N. 118° 38' E. Danger of serious incidents if submarines are used for this purpose. (Cdre., Hong Kong 06532/6 to C. in C. China).

Shipping via Panama. To reduce volume of shipping in South Atlantic, M. of W.T. have arranged for ships in Far Eastern Trade to proceed via Panama instead of the Cape. About 6 to 8 ships per month each way will be involved. (D.T. D. 1859B/6 to C. in C. China).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Bermuda. Now withdrawn as assembly port and vessels proceed Sydney or Halifax for convoy. To avoid congestion at Halifax, Hampton Roads should now be used as bunkering port for vessels requiring substantial quantities. (D.T.D. 0017B/6 to C.in C. A.W.I., etc.).

Suspicious Ship. Following received from U.S. N. Authorities. U.S. Coast Guard at 1925/5 picked up QQQQ from steamer PORT FAIRY which gave position as 25° 06' N. 65° 27' W. 0342/6. (Ends.) (D.D.I.C. 0916B/6 to C. in C. A.W.I). Your 0916B/6. Description tallies with colouring of WAR BRAHMIN who should have been near this position, due Bermuda 8/7. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0929Q/6).

VAN KINSBERGEN. My 1241Q/2, and 1523B/5. Intend VAN KINSBERGEN leave Bermuda for U.K. 14/7. Is ship required to assist in any escort duty? (C. in C. A.W.I., -0941Q/6 to Admty.).

AUSONIA. MALOJA. Your 1109/5. Concur retention of AUSONIA who has larger troop carrying capacity. Would prefer MALOJA to be sailed as soon as practicable with Air Force personnel now available. (R.A.3, 1106P/6 to A.C. Iceland (C).). A.C. Iceland (C)'s 1109/5. Desirable that MALOJA should be sailed to join next O.B. Convoy with balance now awaiting onward passage. A.M.C.s carrying personnel from Iceland (C) to Halifax should invariably be sailed to join O.B. Convoys. (A.C.N.S.(H) and (T) 1200B/6 to B.S. 3, A.C. Iceland (c)).

STRATHNAVER T.C.12. Your 1403/2 and 1543/4. Proposed that only STRATHNAVER be added to the four ships proposed in my 1320/4 para 2. Total accommodation thereby provided in T.C. 12 is 11,500 approx. (D.S.T. 1450B/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C. A.W.I).

"Q" Report. St. Lucia Radio 2250/6, see 7/7.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.7.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ANSELM, (torpedoed 5/7) My 0930Z/6. ANSELM sank in 30 minutes. Total survivors now on board, 1019. Missing (details). (CATHAY, 2130Z/6 to Admty.).

Submarines Reported.

2311/5 G.M.T. German submarine bearings 330/3 at 2311 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 0043B/6 to N.A.S).

0211 G.M.T. Italian Submarine bearing 280/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 0347A/6 to N.A. Stn.).

0210. D/F fix of Italian U/Boat at 0210Z/6 within 60 miles of 037° N. 013° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1041A/6 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. German.Minimum of 20 actually operating in Atlantic. Others may be outward bound not yet fixed. Italian. Five at sea of which some or all may be between Madeira and Cape Vincent. (D.D.I.C. 1434B/6).

1514 G.M.T. D/F bearings Italian Submarine 285/2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1631A/6 to N.A. Stn.).

1608Z. German Submarine bearing 320/3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1726AR/6 to N.A. Stn.).

A.M./30. Report B.2 fisherman who returned to Rio de Janeiro today sighted large submarine surfacing close to his Dory in approx. 19° 09' S. 39° 05' W. shortly before dawn/30. (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro 1744/6) (S.O.I. Montevideo 2317Z/6 to RASAD).

1714 G.M.T. Italian Submarine bearing 283/2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1837A/6 to N.A. Stn.).

/1736.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.7.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

1736. A/C's 1736/6 (N.T. in W.R). Proceed and hunt if you have sufficient fuel remaining. (F.O.C.N.A 1905A/6 to FEARLESS FORESTER).
Your 1905A/6 FEARLESS and FORESTER will reach position at 0400/7 with enough oil fuel to hunt until 2100/7. (FEARLESS, 2040A/6 to F.O.C.N.A).
Your 2220B/ (Asking for repetition of message). Gibraltar W/T Station from aircraft W 84 15. Position of enemy is 037° 56' N. 012° 10' W. T.O.O. 1736 (Ends). (F.O.C.N.A. 2247A/6 to Admty.)
It is probable hourly reports of your movements are being made by Italian S/M. (F.O.C.N.A. 1912A/6 to F.O. 18 C.S).

1715. At 1715Z Italian U-boat within 60 miles of 037° N. 013° W. (F.O.C.N.A., 2053A/6 to N.A. Stn.)

Intercept 05.15 N. 04.32 E. NEW BROOKLYN periscope sighted 2246/6 G.M.T. ends. (Freetown 2225Z/6, Valentia Radio, 2255/6).

2010. Bearings of U/B at 2010 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 2252B/6 to F.O.C.N.A).

~~30/6.~~ Report B.2. received that fishermen who returned to Rio de Janeiro today sighted large submarine surfacing close to him DORY in apprex. 19° 09' S. 39° 05' W. shortly before dawn on 30/6. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2317Z/6 to R.A.S.A.D).

Submarines Attacked.

By BOADICEA. U-boat sighted dived being attacked by escort thick fog. P.C. and S. 60.53 N., 19.25 W., 105 6½. (BEAGLE 0012B/6 to C. in C. W.A).
My 2346B/5. (N.T. in W.R). Submarine dived 2 cables ahead of convoy. BOADICEA made 1 attack. Wash still visible when charge dropped. Visibility -at time 4 cables. Contact never regained. During emergency turn some of escort lost touch and BOADICEA and ST. LOMAN rejoined to give protection after unsuccessful search in inner conditions. Escort now complete. (S.O. Escort Group 4 0650B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

101 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked last night the estimated position of the enemy naval units at Brest.

Successful operations against shipping 8 ships and 1 E-boat sunk of damaged.

Successful operations were carried out by Bomber Command today against shipping off the Dutch coast particularly against an escorted convoy of 8 enemy supply ships off the Hague, in which as many as 6 ships were left sinking or on fire.
Coastal Command aircraft also operated against shipping on the French and Dutch coast and the Frisian Islands both last night and today, and amongst other successes an E-boat was sunk off Gravelines and direct hits were obtained on -ships off Calais and the Frisian Is.

Enemy Air Operations.

East Coast

A/P Trawler LOUIS BOTHA was disabled by air attack at 0215 today off the Humber and was towed to Grimsby.

Convoy F.N.89 reported being bombed at 0044 in 53° 6' N. 1° 16' E. No damage has been reported.

Convoy F.S. 34 was attacked in the early hours off the Humber. No ship was damaged and WHADDON, escorting, claims to have hit the enemy aircraft with 2 pdr.

Irish Sea and West.

Convoy O.B.M.344 was attacked at 0045B near the South Bishop and tanker FERNCOURT was damaged.

Trawler FORT DEE reported being attacked at 0130 when 8 miles S.E. of St. Govan's Light, by a single A/C buring navigation lights. The ship was superficially damaged and claims to have hit the aircraft which attacked her.

Convoy "Wheel" was attacked at 0241 off Carmarthen Bay. No further report has been received.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

East Coast

Orders have been issued that speeds higher than 14 knots when in company with convoys on the East Coast to be avoided unless in action with the enemy or other urgent circumstances render it necessary.

M.L.108 was slightly damaged by a mine today in the coastal channel of the Humber.

Thames Estuary

There was intense minelaying activity over a wide area of the Thames Estuary between 0040 and 0155 today. Several mines were dropped and the enemy aircraft, which included 4 engined F.W. type were heavily engaged by patrol vessels; some A/C were hit and one was brought down.

A/P drifter LORD ST. VINCENT was sunk by a mine at 1445 today near the N.E. Gunfleet Buoy.

Normal traffic in the Medway in the Sheerness area, where restrictions were imposed on 23/6 was resumed this evening.

West.

A mine was detonated in the Usk early this morning; the river was reopened at 1001B.

Two acoustic mines were detonated in unusual circumstances off Plymouth breakwater this morning.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

About 20 enemy aircraft bombed Malta singly last night. No Naval damage is reported.

Tanker sunk.

S/M. O.23, who is returning from patrol in the Gulf of Genoa reports that she has sunk a large enemy tanker fully loaded.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean Contd.

Libya & Western Desert.

Benghazi was bombed last night. 5 Swordfish laid mines in the approaches to Tripoli harbour. Tripoli was also bombed.

Alexandria

About 10 to 20 enemy aircraft raided Alexandria from 2300/6 to 0030/7. Bombs and mines were dropped both inside and outside the harbour. No Naval damage was caused.

Palestine and Syria.

F.O. 7th C.S. in AJAX with PERTH, CARLISLE and destroyers is on the coast of Syria co-operating with the army advance against Damur.

An enemy force of 3 French destroyers and a merchant ship steering east off Cape Khelidonia were attacked this morning by our aircraft and retired to the westward.

Cyprus.

There was an air raid on Nicosia at 0700 G.M.T. today by several JU.88's.

The port of Famagusta was closed at 1729 today on account of two unexploded bombs in the harbour entrance.

U-boat Campaign.

S.S. CITY OF AUCKLAND, dispersed from O.G.66 reported being shelled 0240 G.M.T. in 33° 14' N. 31° 21' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Shipping for Ayrshire Ports. Attention is drawn to A.M.1806/8/6. Vessels not exempted from search who are bound for Ayrshire ports should be routed to Brodick Bay, not the Clyde. (D.T.D., 1313B/7).

ALYNBANK. Admiralty's 1619B/8/6. ALYNBANK is to remain under the orders of C.in C. H.F. for the present. (D.O.D. H., 1535B/7).

Co-operation with Russia.

Operational Information. Personal D.M.I. to MacFarlane.
My telegram 76017 cipher (D.M.I.) 4/7. P.M. has ordered following to be sent for your personal guidance only. We cannot afford to pass on information of immediate operational value as a regular practice. Occasions may however arise when we will do so.
(War Office, 0530/7 to No. 30 Military Mission Moscow).

Technical Information. Information given and requested. Details. (Chief of Naval Mission, Moscow. No. T.O.O./7, Recd. 1120/8, to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

RIPLEY. In view of INTREPID's 1629B/6 am returning to Iceland to refuel. (RIPLEY, 0002Z/7).

9th M.L.F. to Gibraltar VIDETTE. Operation H.E. 2. Add VIDETTE. Para 3 for 3/7 read 8/7. (C. in C. Plymouth 1001/7).

WOLSEY. My 1829/6. Speed south of Tyne until joining F.N. 90 is not to exceed 14 knots except in emergency. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1727/7 to WOLSEY).

Operations.

CORINTHIAN CAVINA HILARY. CORINTHIAN is to shift patrol to L2 forthwith. F.O.C.N.P. is requested to sail CAVINA and HILARY when ready to patrol areas K.1. L.1. (A.C.N.S. F., 1334B/7).

Patrol off.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Patrol off Etaples. Three M.T.B.'s leave Dover 2220 to operate off Etaples, returning to Dover at 0530. Route via D buoy each way. (V.A. Dover, 1606B/7).

Needles S/M patrol. SOKOL. Needles Patrol 2145/7. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1617B/7).

Interception of OSRIC. Reverse direction of patrols. Steer south westward by day, crossing datum line at 0300 B and 1500 B daily. Swedish ship OSRIC may be making for enemy or neutral port. If intercepted she is to be sent or escorted to Kirkwall. (S.O.N.T., Kirkwall, 1920B/7 to N.P. Trawlers).

British Air Activity.

Operation STEM. Carry out operation STEM tomorrow morning with one A/C 59 Squadron. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham, 1203/7 to Detling).

Operation NOMAD. Up to four A/C of 53 Squadron to carry out operation NOMAD tonight 7/8 July in the area Borkum to Walcheren. Ships at sea only to be attacked. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham, 1209/7 to Bircham Newton).

Brest, Emden, Rotterdam, Amsterdam bombed. 5 Reporting Craft and 1 Flak ship sunk. 2 Reporting Craft and 1 Flak ship damaged.

During day 6/7 nine A/C attacked 15 to 20 Reporting Vessels about 20 miles N.W. of Heligoland. 5 Ships were destroyed and 2 damaged.
Six Blenheims attacked three Flakships of 3,000 tons each 18 miles South West of the Hook of Holland. One ship is claimed as destroyed and another damaged.
On Night 6/7 Brest, Emden, Rotterdam and Amsterdam were also bombed. (-H.Q.B.C., 1447/7).

Patrols. TROST, BERT, STAB in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1507/7).
My 1232B/26. As heavy ships are constantly exercising west of the Orkneys request an A/S patrol may be kept permanently in operation as follows until situation changes. From Cape Wrath

to Dunnet Head.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. Contd.

to Dunnet Head and as far North as 59° 45' N. commencing at first light tomorrow. Request this patrol may be restricted when heavy ships and cruisers are in the area to act as A/S escort within 15 miles of ships.
(C. in C. H.F., 1738B/7 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Patrol STAND now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2308/7).
Beauforts* to carry out roving patrol in areas 1 and 4 on night 8/9. *3.
1 A/C to be armed with torpedoes. 2 A/C to be armed max. load 250 lb. Gp.
(A.CH.Q. Plymouth, 1630/7 to St. Eval).

Escort.

Expect A/A Escort of 1 Hudson Whitley or Wellington from 1200B/8 weather permitting.
(C. in C. W.A., 2104B/7 to OBERON).

Enemy Air Activity.

SNAEFELL (Bombed 5/7).

SNAEFELL's Oropesa Float showing above water 1½ miles 145° from 20 Q Buoy at 2150. SNAEFELL reported sunk in 054° 51' N 001° 07' W.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0040/7).

Convoy CASING.

Following has been read One A/C shadowing Convoy CASING 0616 270 8.
(VIMIERA 0044/7).
One enemy aircraft bombing CASING 66° 5' N., 1° 18' E. (VERSATILE 0051/7).
Fighter aircraft are being sent to assist F.N. Convoy CASING. (Nore, W/T No T.O.O., Recd. 0110/7).

Convoy O.B.M. 344.

Help SUSIE. 51° 52' N., 5° 30' W.
(SUTLEJ, 0045B/7).

Convoy SAPPER.

Fighter aircraft are being sent.
(Plymouth, W/T No T.O.O. Recd. 0056/7).

MAYDAY.

Received 2306 G.M.T. MAYDAY Steam Trawler 4 B attacked by Enemy Aircraft SE.St. Govans Lightship.
(Burnham Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 0132/7).

Convoy STEWARD.

Fighters have been sent to assist STEWARD.
(Plymouth 0244/7).

/MALLARD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.7.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

MALLARD. WHADDON.

MALLARD reports bombs dropped 0149 no hits. Aircraft hit by 4 inch shells from MALLARD confirmed by WHADDON. Not observed to crash. (LEEDS 0511/7).
My 0511/7. MALLARD's hit not confirmed by WHADDON. WHADDON claims hit with 2 pounder and possibly with 4 inch shell.
(LEEDS, 1211/7).

Convoy O.B.M. 344. FERNCOURT (Norwegian Tanker 9918 tons) damaged.

At 0115/7 in 51° 50' N 5° 28' 30" W. FERNCOURT damaged by 3 hits. One killed, 3 injured. Arrived Milford Haven 0958B/7 in tow of Tug SCHELDE escorted by ROSEMARY.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0530B/7, 0956B/7, 0958B/7, 1724B/7).

Ramsgate bombed.

Following from Police Control Centre Ramsgate. At 0129/7 five bombs were dropped. All failed to explode. Aircraft circled and made off in a northerly direction. At 0145 Margate Police reported burst of machine gun firing and an aircraft crashed into sea approximately 2 miles to seaward at 0145/7. No damage to Naval personnel or property. (-N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0915/7).

Yarmouth bombed.

Enemy action Gt. Yarmouth 7/7/41. Superficial damage to No. M.L. Base. Minor damage R.N. Barracks. (C.E. Yarmouth 0933B/7).

LOUIS BOTHA damaged.

(A/P Trawler) Bombed by enemy aircraft 2 miles south of Humber L/V at 0215 today. Engines disabled immediately by two near misses. Aircraft attacked again result two further near misses. All engine room, auxiliary's and W/T set disrupted and various other damage done. Vessel was making a little water and was towed into Grimsby by A/P trawler LOCH MOIDART. No casualties.
(F.O. Humber, 1009B/7).

FORTE DEE.

(Trawler) Reports at 0130/7 when 8 miles S.E. of St. Govan's Light being attacked by single aircraft burning navigational lights. Several bombs missed but one bomb hit ship and did not explode. This has been removed. Trawler engaged aircraft and claim hits. Gunner wounded. Superficial damage by bomb and shrapnel.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1530B/7).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.7.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.67 A.
SCOTT
NIGERIA.

Departure your 1117B/6/7. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0559B/7).
R.A.M.L. 1137/6. NIGERIA is to R/V with R.A.M.L. off Cape Wrath and provide A/A escort during operation S.N. 67 A. (C. in C. H.F., 1003B/7).

M.L. 108.

Send M.L. 108 who is tow of M.L. 106 into Humber and make necessary signal. Understand former was damaged by mine. (VERSATILE 0601B/7 to VIMIERA).

River Usk.

My 1552B/5 is cancelled. Normal traffic in River Usk may now be resumed. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1001B/7).
At 0700B/7 two Mines detonated by Sweeper in River Usk. Details.
(Capt. M/S, Bristol Channel 1100B/7).

HOLDERNESS.

HOLDERNESS mined off Flamborough in about 25 fathoms was proceeding at 26 knots. High speeds when in company with convoys are to be avoided unless in action with the enemy or other urgent circumstances render it necessary.
(C. in C. Nore, 1236B/7).

Thames Estuary.

There was intense minelaying activity over a wide area of the Thames Estuary between 0040 and 0155 on night 6/7. Ten mines reported in Southern End of Barrow Deep area and four West of Southend Pier. Planes engaged were recognised as Heinkel 111, and also four engined Focke Wulfe Type, and height appears generally to be about 2000 feet. Planes were heavily engaged by patrol ships and one Heinkel 111 near B.1. buoy was hit, burst into flames, and crashed. Planes were also seen to be hit by patrol ships in Barrow Deep area.
(S.O. T.L.D.F., 1410/7).

Speed of East Coast Escort Ships.

In view of the menace of acoustic mines, ships employed on escort duty on the east coast, south of the Forth are normally to proceed at a speed not greater than 14 knots.
In emergency, when in action with the enemy, and depending on the circumstances at the time, it is realised that this speed must be exceeded on occasions, but in such cases speed must be increased gradually, and a speed of 16 knots in particular is to be avoided.
For Ships routed independently and for particular operations, the necessary speed will be indicated.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1739/7).

/Plymouth.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Plymouth. Two acoustic mines detonated at 0915 and 0950 today 192° 1.45 miles and 240° 6.8 cables respectively from Breakwater Light. Circumstances unusual. Written report follows. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1748/7).

LORD ST. VINCENT. sunk. (A/P Drifter) Sunk by mine close to N.E. Gunfleet buoy at 1445/7. 14 Survivors brought into Harwich. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2057B/7).

Medway. Cancel my 0719B/23/6. Normal traffic in River Medway may now be resumed. (Cdre. Sheerness, 2128B/7).

S.N. 70 A. Propose taking over operation S.N. 70 A at 1400/15 with AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, and PORT QUEBEC and lay a.m./17 as follows, returning to Port Z.A. a.m./19.
Only two of 17th Division Destroyers available. Request a third destroyer.
(R.A.M.L., 2247/7).

Enemy Intelligence.

Convoy off Ameland. Convoy of 14 ships bearing 180° distance 1 mile Course 270°. My position 53.29 N., 5.30 E. (A/C Duty Z., 0135/7 to Bircham Newton).

Enemy M/F Frequencies. There is evidence that the following M/F frequencies are used for direct intercommunication between German units at sea. (D.N.I., 1514B/7).

Heligoland Bight. An intelligence screen of Trawlers and Light Craft has now been positioned, probably running from Terschelling to Blaavands Point. 15 to 20 reporting vessels were seen on 6/7 about 20 miles N.W. of Heligoland. (H.Q.B.C., 1447/7).

NURNBERG EMDEN. My 1743/4. Both vessels still at Oslo June 30th from where they carry out daily exercises. Graded C.2. (-N.A. Stockholm, 1539/7).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

East Coast. Forecast of Convoy Sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1200/7) See Lion Copy.

M/Vs and Enemy A/C C. in C. Rosyth 1230/6. Concur that opening fire on sound of A/C overhead is waste of ammunition. If time fuzed shell become available for M.V.s it might be of value for them to fire at sound of a low flying A/C approaching from the flank at dusk and dawn before A/C are actually seen. (C. in C. Nore 1452B/7).

D.S.7 Must be delayed 24 hours to enable important R.A.F. unit to embark, due Greenock a.m./8. (D.O.D.(H) 1704B/7 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C., Greenock).

Minesweeper Escorts. Provided no undue delay is incurred Minesweepers should provide escort to W.N. Convoys when proceeding to Aberdeen. (C. in C. W.A., 1948B/7 to N.O.I.C.Stornoway).

Route Signals. To be transmitted in standardised manner. (D.T.D. 1954/7 to C.s in C).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

GROUIN-DU-COU French Trawler — Crew friendly disposed but no volunteers for de Gaulle. Vessel's condition, hull good, engines require overhaul.
(C.C.S.O. Gib., 1120/7 to Admty.)

CHALLENGER STARWORT — Cancel my 1114/3. On leaving Ponta Delgada pass through (a) 37.00 N. 26.00 W. (b) 20.00 N. 19.00 W. thence as ordered by C. in C. S.A.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1124A/7 to CHALLENGER, STARWORT.)

S/Ms. on Convoy Duty. — My 1006A/12/6 and 1036A/19/6, intend to repeat this trial with H G and O G 67 and subsequent convoys. Submarines will transfer orders to escort of O G convoys at sea.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1136A/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

PETUNIA H.G.67 — C. in C. W.A. 1537B/5 and CATHAY 0935Z/6. You will be required to leave Ponta Delgada in company with PEEBLES about 13/7 to R/V with H.G.67. Postpone entering Ponta Delgada to fuel as late as possible and meanwhile carry out A/S patrol between 036° and 038° N. 025° and 028° W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1202A/7 to PETUNIA.)
Your 1202A/7. Can maintain patrol until p.m./9 at 10 knots. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada 2100A/10.
(PETUNIA, 1603Z/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Ships. — Arrival 6/7 French PRESIDENT LAVIT, JEANNE DENISE, COURDONNE.
(Bilbao, 1224/7, to D. of S.T.)

Intelligence, Toulon, Genoa. — Following French Vessels doing Gunnery Practices 25 miles south of Toulon P.M/1. One large cruiser and three destroyers B one. Genoa A. 28/6 3 vessels about 4000 tons loaded with war material deck cargo, lorries and troops with one half loaded tanker sailed in company. Other items.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1626A/7.)

O.23 Enemy Tanker sunk. — Returning owing to serious leak external fuel tank. Passing Iviza night 8/9. Sank big enemy tanker fully loaded.
(Netherlands Sub. O.23, 2130A/7, to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

QUEEN OF BERMUDA.	Vice Consul Lobito reports 1350/5 large steamer standing horizon distance off Lobito since dawn. (?Evidently) QUEEN OF BERMUDA. Most important ship should not be sighted from shore unless having to close to intercept. (C. in C. S.A., 1031N/7 to QUEEN OF BERMUDA.)
CITY OF DURBAN	Left Freetown 6/7 to patrol in 1 34 A. (C. in C. S.A., 1131N/7 to Admty. and S.A.Stn.)
RAMO	Overdue shipping. Norwegian RAMO due Durban 2/7 from Bombay not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1205B/7.)
CHENONCEAUX	Vichy French bound for Madagascar from Saigon may proceed onto Dakar or Casablanca, if so expected to pass vicinity of Cape about 6/7. Has on board 2 Seamen sentenced to prison term for de Gaulle activity and Colonel Andre returned to France probably for pro British sympathies. (C. in C. S.A., 1505N/7 to S.A. Sqdn.)
BALZAC	Have you any news of BALZAC due 25/6 from Capetown? (D.T.D. 1738B/7 to Consul, Pernambuco.) Reply: No. (0845/8.)
Raider Report, 5/7.	5/7, 1450/G.M.T. heard raider signal from unknown ship giving 01.18 S. 30.00 W. Signal. of distress weak apparently on emergency set. Think ship Greek, no further signals heard. (Via Freetown W/T. 2020Z/7 to S.A. Stn., Admty.)
TOTTENHAM	(Shelled by raider about 320 miles W. of Ascension Island on 17/6.) 17 members of crew reported arrived Trinidad. (See America and West Indies.)
ERLANGEN (German)	C.3 reports vessel will leave tomorrow for Brazilian port keeping within territorial waters. Stated by members of crew ashore that expect to join other German ships in Brazil and sail together escorted by German raider or cruiser. Italian FORTUNSTELLA position unchanged. (N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires, 2132Z/7 to R.A.S.A.D.).
CHALLENGER	F.O.C.N.A. 1124/7. Route, to Bathurst. Detach STARWORT off Bathurst to proceed to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 2247N/7 to CHALLENGER.)

MOST SECRET

7.7.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Vichy Ships in Turkey.

Your 1215/5. CHATEAU YQUEM, or other Vichy ships, may be attacked if necessary in Turkish harbours, but only if failure to attack in harbour will mean failure to catch the ship at all.
(V.C.N.S. 0042B/7 to C. in C. Med.)

Syria Bombardment

Your 1954C/6 to C.S.15 and my 2301C/6. Ships will be in position at 1330.
(C.S.7, 0155/7 to B.N.L.O. Palestine).

Situation Report 78.

Syria. F.O.7th C.S. in AJAX with PERTH CARLISLE and destroyers (? bombarding) in (? close) support army advance which began today, Sunday (as received).
Alexandria. Air raid commencing 2315.
(C. in C. Med., 0843C/7 to Admty.)

Enemy Units, A/C attack.

3 Vichy destroyers and 1 M.V. reported from 0645/7 off Cape Khelidonia and later attacked by aircraft. List of signals from Aircraft Units: 0645/7, 0700Z/7, 0755/7, 0800/7, 0805/7, 0945/7, 1130/7, 1547/7, 1720/7, 1905/7, 2132/7, 2251/7. 1330/7. Also from N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1920C/7, Capt. S.1., 2031C/7.
Aircraft "K" 0645. Send PARTHIAN to operate off Beirut at your discretion.
(C. in C. Med., 0915C/7 to F.O. 15 C.S.)
Your 1542/6 (N.T. in W.R.). Request you sail PARTHIAN for Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med., 1745C/7 to C.S.15.)
XXX1. One merchant vessel bearing 270° 2 miles distance - course 170° position 34° 19' N. 32° 24' E. 1000 tons - Turkish flag - no name (? int) sink it.
(Flying Boat L.2160, 1800/7.)

SEVERN
CLYDE
OLYMPUS

Adty. 1922B/2. I regret very much decision to withdraw SEVERN and CLYDE whose speed makes them most suitable for employment on these long distance patrols. Experience here does not show their size should handicap them unduly in Tyrrhenean Sea. In fact they have both had successful patrols and inflicted damage with little opposition.
Ref. para. (iv) I would welcome OLYMPUS for purpose.
(C. in C. Med., 1806C/6 to Admty.)

/Syria.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Syria Targets

Your 2301. Military do not know any definite targets in todays naval gun area as yet.
(N.L.O. Palestine, 0805C/7 to C.S.7.)
No calls for fire today 7th. 12 Vichy Bombers sighted but chased off by fighters without releasing bombs. Fighters claim one JU 88, probably not Vichy.
(C.S.7, 2041C/7 to C. in C. Med.)
Military requirements not yet known. Conference at 0700/8. Likely requirements will be Abey which appears reinforced. Suggest P.M. appearance in hope situation clarifies. Tanks reported using coast roads.
(N.L.O. Palestine, 2105C/7 to C.S.15.)
Two Beaufighters to stand by from 0600 to shadow if enemy sighted approaching Tripoli from Westward. Request H.Q. P. and T.J. Command arrange communication and inform Lydda Beaufighter contents of C.S.15, 1725/7 (N.T. in W.R.)
(201 Group, 2253/7 to Lydda, DUNDEE, etc.)
Agreed that 3 hours fighter protection is insufficient for bombarding force. Fighters will be standing by tomorrow from dawn in case return of F.O.C. 15 C.S. is delayed. They will be sent if called by 15 C.S.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 2325C/7, to F.O. 15 C.S.)

French M.V. attacked.

Op. Summary No.392 up to 1200/7/7/1941.
Cyprus 6/7, 1 Beaufighter attacked and damaged with Cannon gun 1 French M.V. of 2000 tons 10 miles East Rhodes.

Suez Canal Raid.

Night 5/6, about 6 unidentified aircraft dropped bombs and mines in Suez Canal area. No damage or casualties.

3 M.Vs. bombed.

Western Desert. 5/6, 1 Wellington bombed 3 ships in Menelaio Bay, Bomba, no hits.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1054/7.)

BENCRUACHAN mined.

6/7 BENCRUACHAN sunk by mine 297 Mex High Light 9.8 cable. Hoped to salve some cargo.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1151C/7 to Admty.) W.D.Note. Former signal said sunk at 1730/5.

C.S.15 Screen

Capt. (D) 7. Shall require 4 destroyers from screen of C.S.7 to R/V me end of swept channel at 1900/7.
(C.S.15 to 1210C/7 to C.S.7, Capt. D.7.)

/German.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 7.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

German Ships. Departures 5/7 LISBOA Marseilles, 6/7 ELIZABETH H. FISSER Savona.
(Valencia, 1400/7 to D. of S.T.)

SALVIA Your 0744/6. Send SALVIA to fuel at Haifa. as convenient and return to Famagusta.
(C. in C. Med., 1541C/7 to N.O.i/c Famagusta.)

Famagusta U.X.Bs. Famagusta port closed on account of two U.X.Bs. in harbour entrance. Hope to be open at daylight.
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1729/7 to SALVIA.)
Is there information about French delaying 250 lb. bomb? Is it correct to assume danger negligible non existent after 5 hours?
(N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 2115/7 to C.O.I.S. Alexandria.)

Alexandria Raid. Air Raid at 2300 to 0030/7. About 10 machines G mines and bombs. Shallow diving attacks put bombs or mines near floating dock and both inside and outside of harbours. Few casualties and light scattered damage.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 17320/7 to Admty. etc.)

Malta Raid C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 7/7. Night 6/7. 20 Enemy aircraft over singly lasting 5 hours. Some bombs on land. Civilian casualties.

Tripoli Mined and bombed Night 6/7. One Fulmar patrolled Catania during enemy raids on Malta and shot down one large aircraft in flames. 6 Swordfish laid 5 Cucumbers approaches Tripoli harbour. Sixth dropped 1200 lbs. G.P bombs on 5000 ton M/V alongside North Mole. No hits observed. 7 Wellingtons bombed engine sheds Tripoli.
(H.Q. .R.A.F Malta, 2008/7.)

Beirut and Benghazi bombed Prelim. Ops. Summary No.21. Night 6/7. Light attacks were made by Wellingtons on Beirut en route to Aleppo, object to keep air defence measures in action. 3 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi causing fires followed by explosions.

Nicosia Raid. Cyprus. Raid by several Ju.88s. on Nicosia 0700 G.M.T./7.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 2102/7.)

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation Report No. 79.

Syria. Army objective South of Damur reported reached 6/7. Advanced Forces now in outskirts of Damur. Naval support effective but observation of Bombardment handicapped by Cloud and Mist. Vichy French Air attacks on Force B driven off by Fighter Patrols.
3 French Destroyers and 1 Merchant Ship sighted by A/C off Cape Khelidonia, Turkey at 0645/7 steering E. After attacks by our aircraft enemy retired to West and A/C lost touch.
NAIAD PHOEBE and destroyers will be sweeping to north of Beirut during the night.
Western Desert. Tug C.307 shot down her second aircraft in raid on Tobruk 0945/6.
Canal Area. 6 aircraft dropped bombs or mines in canal area early on 6/7. No damage or casualties and canal open.
(C. in C. Med., 2243C/7, to Admty.)

East Indies.

DURBAN CASTLE.

A.M. 1753/4. Consider it unlikely DURBAN CASTLE will arrive Durban before 10/8.
(C. in C. E.I., 0644Z/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

COLOMBO

Intend COLOMBO to escort YOMA leaving Mombasa on 13/7 to Mogadishu and on 010° N. whence COLOMBO is to return to Mombasa and YOMA proceed to Berbera independently.
(Cdre. R.I.N.(?), 0746Z/7 to COLOMBO.)

Madagascar

Policy. (A.C.N.S.(F), 2355B/7 to C. in C. E.I.).
See Operations Volume.

China.

TAI-POO-SECK (French)

Arrived 29/6.
(Hong Kong, 0221Z/7.)

Ship stopped by Japanese S/M.

Cdre. Hong Kong 0653Z/6. Concur this is a most dangerous practice. Could Minister of Marine be reminded we are at war with two other powers both of which are using submarines for indiscriminate warfare?. (C. in C. China, 0249Z/7 to Ambassador, Tokyo.)

U.S. Asiatic Fleet

Re sinking of merchant ships, and proposed combat zone. (C. in C. China, 0449Z/7 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

BARFLEUR FORT DE FRANCE

Your 15429/5. Voyage is approved. Policy with regard to future voyages is outlined in Arfar 3816 to Washington and in M.E.W. No.4 to C. in C. A.W.I.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0055B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Cancel para. 1. of my 0055/7. Movements of BARFLEUR and FORT DE FRANCE, reported in your 1139/2, were not approved sailings within the meaning of para. 2 of my 2337/17/6. Matter is, however, being taken up with U.S., and unless contrary instructions are received these vessels are not to be interfered with during these voyages whilst in company. If on the return journey FORT DE FRANCE is met with unescorted, she should be taken into Trinidad for examination.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1621B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

CITY OF AUCKLAND

Gunned by S/M in 33.14 N., 31.21. W.
(See U-Boat Campaign).

"Q" Report

Intercept 0110 G.M.T./7. QQQ 25.55 N. 66.17 W. BRITISH SPLENDOUR. Suspicious vessel in sight 0056/7. (St. Lucia Radio, 2250/6, to Freetown, Bermuda, Jamaica.) N.I.D. Comment - Perhaps CITY OF GUILDFORD.

WINNIPEG ARICA

Ships detained WINNIPEG, ARICA, French total 2.
(C.C.S.O. Trinidad, 1145Q/7 to Admiralty for M.E.W.)

U.S. Merchant Ships.

Employment on British Service, routes, etc.
(N.A. Washington, 1550/7 to Admy.) See Lion Copy.

Use of Belle Isle

Your 1845B/6, see my 1408Z/4. Consider Belle Isle satisfactory for ships from O B convoys but that it should be used sparingly.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1623Z/7 to Admty.)

RAMILLIES

Your 1108Z/2 decision must rest with Admiralty but it is unlikely that proposal will be approved as your present role is of great strategic importance.
(R.A. 3 B.S. 1647P/7, to RAMILLIES.)

/ELLINICO.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

ELLINICO — Have you any news of Greek ELLINICO from Mersey due 26/6?.
(D.T.D. 1739B/7 to N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F.)

TOTTENHAM — N.C.S.O. Trinidad reports British MAHRONHA arrived 2/7 with 17 survivors ? from TOTTENHAM sunk 17/6. Picked up approx. 005.21 S. 028.45 W. 24/6.
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1827R/7, to Admty.)

HESPERUS, ST. FRANCIS, WALNEY, TOTLAND, SENNEN — To provide ocean escort to O B 344. Destroyers are to remain with convoy till prudent limit of endurance before proceeding to join Newfoundland Escort Force. Cutters are to proceed with convoy to Halifax.
(C. in C. W.A., 1941B/7 to Ships concerned.)

MALAYA Swordfish — Cancel my 1901/3. Your 1153/5 approved.
(D.N.A.D. 1944B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ILE D'OUESSANT (French) — Departure 6/7 Casablanca, 30/7.
(Baltimore, 2210Z/7 to D. of S.T.)

POZARICA — Italian Ship No.222 (FEDE) renamed POZARICA Mexican Flag, sailed Tampico 5/7 for Houston.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2328R/7.)

SUSAN MAERSK — Adty. 1900B/5/6. SUSAN MAERSK not arrived Curacao. Adty. 1827B/8/6 ST. LINDSAY not arrived Trinidad.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2348R/7.)

Australia.

MANUNDA — Have you any news of MANUNDA sailed Colombo 6/6.
(D.T.D. 1700B/7 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CITY OF AUCKLAND	Following has been read S S S S gunned in 33.14 N. 31.21. W. (CITY OF AUCKLAND, 0243/7) British, 8336 tons, from Liverpool to Capetown, dispersed from Convoy O.G.66. (D.S. 671.) Navy Dept. advise no U.S. warship in vicinity. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0540Z/7 to Admty.)
Unknown Ship 2315/6.	Mombasa radio intercepted an incomplete S Distress Signal at 2315Z/6. Following letters read PEJGOGI CORIGW TONOPO (2) Assure position was in Atlantic. (C. in C. E.I., 0326Z/7 to Admty.)
Unknown Ship	S S S S received at 0120 G.M.T., no position given. (Scapa W/T, 0330B/7, 0355B/7, to Admty.)
VIGRID (torpedoed 24/6.)	U.S. Destroyer HUGHES picked up on 3/7 14 survivors including 4 women of VIGRID, 4765 tons, torpedoed 24/6 in 055° N. 041° W. 3 other boats believed to be in vicinity. 2 American destroyers searching. (A.C.I.(C), 2145/7, to Admty.) VIGRID, Norwegian, 4765 tons, from New Orleans for Belfast and Manchester, was a straggler from H.X.133. (D.S. 673.)

Submarines Reported.

2010/6	D/F bearings at 2010/6 G.M.T. indicate German U-Boat within 60 miles of 34° 30' N. 14° W. (D.D.I.C. 0115B/7.).
1155.	One S/M bearing 160°. Distance 5 miles. 34.50 N., 09.48 W. (ERIDGE, 1155/7, to F.O.C.N.A.) My position 034° 25' N. 010° 05' W. ERIDGE in company. Not in contact. Catalina arrived 1800. S/M surfaced for 5 minutes at 1600 in 034° 36' N. 009° 55' W. bearing 240° from FARNDALE 8 miles. (FARNDALE, 1801A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/Estimated.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

7.7.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

Estimated U-Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1344B/7.)

21/6 — S.O.(I) Jamaica 1621R/5, S/M of 21/6 identified as Brazilian.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1514Z/7, to S.O.I. Jamaica, etc.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C — Daily Summary Ops. On return from patrol A/C sighted and bombed U-Boat 37° 30 N. 12° W. No hits. U-Boat stayed on surface. A/C shadowed until dark then contact lost.
(200 Group, 1030/7, to A.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Three M.T.B.s from Dover operated off Etaples last night.

A statement of the U.S. Naval Forces now in Iceland is given by A.C.I.C. today.

The 9th M.L. Flotilla left Plymouth for Gibraltar this morning, escorted by 4 destroyers.

Enemy Air Operations.

H.M.T. HEROINE was attacked and damaged at 0200 today in the Thames Estuary, and was towed to Sheerness.

Superficial damage was caused at Great Yarmouth M.L. base last night.

Trawler BRAES O'MAR was unsuccessfully attacked at 0500 15 miles West of Blaskets.

Mining.

Operation 67 A. — R.A.M. with 3 minelayers and 3 destroyers left Port Z.A. at 0532 B today to lay mines south of the Faeroes. NIGERIA left Scapa at 0851 to provide A.A. escort.

East Coast. — Mines were detonated off the Tyne, Humber, Harwich and in the Thames Estuary.

South Atlantic.

It was erroneously reported that from 0723 to 0750/6 a Glenn Martin aircraft machine and cannon gunned ships in harbour at Freetown. The French A/C did not open fire, but some ships were hit by falling shell splinters from our own A.A. fire.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. Four enemy air attacks were made on Mersa Matruh last night.

Palestine and Syria.

There was a heavy air raid on Haifa between 0130 and 0330 today. Mines were dropped inside the harbour and the port was closed until 1848. Certain dangerous areas have been defined. A small fire was started in the refinery. No Naval damage was caused.

Wellingtons bombed Beirut last night, obtaining a direct hit on the fuel tanks. The resulting fire was visible 80 miles. Tripoli was also bombed.

China.

There are many indications that Japan is making all preparations for a crisis, e.g. requisitioning a number of fast freighters, closing businesses in U.S.A., Japanese fleet standing by.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Minesweeper Escorts to E.C.Convoys. C.in C.W.A. 1948/7. Request you will sail these Minesweepers whenever possible as additional escorts to E.C. Convoys from Aberdeen to Stornoway on completion of their boiler cleaning periods. Undue delay cannot be accepted. (C. in C. Rosyth 1153/8 to F.O.I.C. Aberdeen.)

Vessel as S/M Escort. Your 1928/7 Para.3. Regret no vessel available in W.A. Command unless it is considered that GLEN STRATHALLAN is suitable. (C. in C.W.A. 1206B/8 to Adty.)

S/M Safety Area. Surface vessels are not to attack submarines in an area enclosed by latitudes 62° 04' N. and 64° N. and longitude 003° W. and 006° 59' W. until further orders. (D.O.D.H. 1523B/8.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

U.S. Forces in Iceland. 2 Battleships 2 Cruisers and 10 Destroyers of U.S. Navy are at Hvalfjord. 3 (5 groups missing) A/S patrol to seaward line GRROTTA AKRANES. U.S. Admiral flying flag in Transport at Reykjavik. (A.C.I.C. 1051Z/8 to SUFFOLK.)

Identifiation Signals. Admiralty 1818B/22 June. U.S. Signals continue as follows. (D.S.D.1837B/8)

Co-operation with Russia.

Military Mission. Proposed M.O. Following for Chiefs of Staff from MacFarlane. Suggest combined strength Embassy and Mission is now so large that if opportunity offers we should be sent a medical officer. We may want badly in the event of having to move from Moscow. (No.30 Mil.Mission, Moscow 2220/8 to War Office.)

Defence of U.K.

Fuel at Horns Fiord. My 1055/26. Fuel and oil now available at Horns Fiord U.R. (A.C.I.C. 1021/8 to C.in C. H.F.

Movements.

D.S FURIOUS. Am in position (p) 043° N. 025° 30' W. at 0400A/8 having swept from 30 miles ahead to 40 miles astern your reported position at 1900. Intend waiting (?outside territorial waters.) (Capt.D.8 0456B/8 to C.S. 18.)

ARAWA. My 1456/30/6. ARAWA will not now sail for Freetown. No further forecast can be given at present. (F.O.C.N.P. 0916B/7)

/Cancel .....

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

Cancel my 1029B/5. C.S.1 in DEVONSHIRE is to sail from Scapa a.m./9 and proceed to Hvalfjord. DEVONSHIRE is to leave Iceland as necessary to arrive Scapa on about 15/7. (C. in C.H.F. 1146B/8.)

4th M/L. Flotilla. Adty. 1529/21/6. Intend to sail 4th M.L.Flotilla escorted by ECLIPSE 0700/11 for Reykjavik anchoring for the night of 11-12 in Skaalefiord. E.T.A. Reykjavik p.m./13. (A.C.O.S. 1806B/8.)

REPULSE. Cancel my 1737. Return to harbour. (C. in C. H.F. 1948B/8 to REPULSE.)

Operations.

Denmark Straits Patrol. SUFFOLK is to leave patrol now and return to Scapa after fuelling at Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F. 1146B/8.)

TUNA A/S Patrol. TUNA has been ordered to proceed on the surface passing Bishop Rock at 0001/9 and thence by direct route to carry A/S patrol in the vicinity of 048° N. 025° W. and to act on special intelligence. (F.O.S. 1803B/8.) Your 1803. Direct route satisfactory. (C. in C. Plymouth 2035/8 to F.O.S.)
(A) From Bishop Rock proceed by direct route with despatch at your discretion establish patrol in position 274° D.D. 785 miles.
(B) Object title para.K of part 4 section 47 S.I.S.
(C) T.B.R. arranged. (F.O.S.1811B/8 to TUNA)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. Patrols TROST, STAB and BERT due to take off about 1250. (C. in C. Rosyth 1103/8.)
My 1103/8. Patrols TROST, STAB and BERT postponed owing to low cloud and poor visibility. (C. in C. Rosyth 1238/8.)
My 1906/8. Patrol BERT has been reinforced by a second A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth 1956/8.)

A/S patrol Orkneys and Shetlands. Your 1738/7. It has been arranged to maintain aircraft in the area continuously until further orders. This will entail the allocation of an average of 7 aircraft daily to this task. The only aircraft available in 18 Group for these duties are long range R/C machines or Blenheim fighters and their use on this patrol entails a reduction in operations off the Norwegian Coast, A/S patrols for ocean convoys, or fighter protection of East Coast Convoys, Para.2. It is very desirable therefore that aircraft operating from Hatston which are now no longer under 18 Groups operational control should be used for these patrols. (C. in C. Rosyth 1300/8.)

/A.C. .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

A/C for FURIOUS. Your 1841B/7. Sqdns. will embark in FURIOUS not earlier than 17/7. As many pilots as possible of 800, 812, 817 and 880 Sqdns. should gain experience in ARGUS before embarking. (D.N.A.D. 1323B/8 to V.A.N.A.S.)

Area South of Brest. OPS. 756 8/7. Ref. OPS./696 dated 26/6. Shipping may be attacked in the area at night and aircraft may be routed through the area but they should not be so routed unless it is necessary for operational reasons to do so. (H.Q.C.C. 1800/8 to 19 and 16 Groups.)

200 Group Gibraltar. Your CC/S 7010/17/4/Plans dated 8.6.41. Your proposal that No. 200 Group Gibraltar should be placed under your operational control is approved. Signal date on which you propose this should take effect. (Air Ministry 1830/8 to Coastal Command.)

Enemy Air Activity.

HEROINE. (M/S Trawler) damaged. HEROINE attacked by single aircraft in 51° 26' 18" N. 01° 27' 30" E. at 0200/8/7. Ship sustained considerable damage which necessitates docking, and may be out of action for some time. No casualties. Aircraft was engaged by 3 Trawlers, hits were not observed but aircraft did not repeat attack. Ship was towed back to base by H.M.T. EMILION and Tug ST. CLEARS. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1148/8)

Mining.

S.N.67 A. Departure R.A.(M) in AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, CASTLETON WELLS and HEYTHROP. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0532B/8.)

Scapa departure 0851 C.S.10 in NIGERIA. (A.C.O.S. 0925/8.)

Thames Estuary. Two S.A. mines detonated by Sweeper at 1523/7. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0915/8.)
3 S.A. mines detonated today by S.A. Sweepers. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1727/8.)

Medway. My 2128B/7/7 should read normal traffic in River Medway in Sheerness Area may now be resumed Instructions for traffic to keep to west of No.2 and No.3 mooring buoys is now cancelled. (Cdre. Sheerness 0959B/8.)

/St. Albans .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

St. Albans Head. Explosions. Ten flashes and heavy explosions were seen and heard by C.G. Station at St. Albans Head between 0453/8 and 0540/8. Approx. position 110°. St. Albans 7 miles. These cannot be explained and no aircraft were heard or reported in vicinity. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1041B/8.)

Tyne. One red ground magnetic mine detonated 1013/8 in 065° Tyne N. Pier Light 25 cables. (P.M.S.O. Tyne, 1045/8.)

Folkestone Minefield. Observation Minefield off Folkestone Harbour has now been laid and will shortly be joined up ready for Service. (V.A. Dover, 1247B/8.)

Harwich. At 1005 one green mine detonated in 51° 49.7' N. 1° 24.6' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1507B/8)

PYTCHLEY. (Mined 23/6.) You are to proceed to Wallsend Slipway at 0830/9. (C.O.I.C. Tyne 1605/8 to PYTCHLEY.)

HOLDERNESS. (Mined 5/7.) HOLDERNESS should be taken in hand for annual refit concurrently with damage repairs, time not exceeding 21 days unless damage repairs necessitate it. (C. in C. Nore. 1746B/8.)

Spurn Point. The following mine detonated today at 0920. Also at 1525 a mine or delayed action bomb exploded in 282° Spurn Point 5.6 miles. No sweepers operating but DRUMMER BOY anchored near, not weighing, and no machinery working. (F.O. Humber, 1928B/8.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Shipping in Straits of Dover on 7/7. Chatham form white CH/WE7/7/7. It is considered inconceivable that shipping of the size or number indicated in the Chatham form white passed through Dover Strait or came out of Calais yesterday. The shipping situation in the Straits was well known to me from three reliable sources and evidence shows that one vessel of 3-5000 tons and up to 20 small craft such as trawlers, barges and R. boats passed going East. The shipping strike was undertaken on this information. After the strike and as a result of information from bombers taking part. Jim Crows made a R/C from Dunkirk to Boulogne and sighted only groups of small craft. P.R.U. also reported Calais empty of ships. It is considered advisable that reports of this importance concerning shipping in the Dover Strait should be filtered by me before being broadcast. (V.A.Dover 1146B/8.)

/471 CH/Ops. .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Shipping in Straits of Dover on 7/7. contd.

471 CH/Ops.1 8/7. Your 1146B/8/7. I am speaking to you about it as soon as possible. The pilots report was not form whited until crews had been requestioned by this H.Q. The pilots and observers who are considered reliable were quite convinced on the subject and one of the observers who has had Merchant Navy experience drew out on a piece of paper the formation giving estimated cables distance etc. for the benefit of the Station Commander who also queried the report. The crews are still convinced they were not mistaken. I would point out that this was not broadcast as a force but only form whited in order to give the Aircraft's report of the attack in accordance with normal procedure. (A.O.C. 16 Group 1700/8 to V.A. Dover.)

Enemy Force off Scillies.

A.B.C. 2 I.P.R. 1 Yacht, 4 Destroyers, 8 Motor Launches 49° 48' N. 6° W. (A.C.F.C. Duty N. 1340/8 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Enemy course and speed are 075 15. (A/C U.3 of 19 Group 1542/8 to 19 Group H.Q.)

Warship on 2/7.

Trained Observer reports sighting on July 2nd in Kattegat off North Jutland German warship with five or six guns visible from two foremost turrets. Vessel was heading northwards and was followed by three or four thousand ton auxiliary in station astern. Graded B.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1601/8.)

Casualties and Defects.

HAZARD.

Reports A/S Dome damaged by grounding in crack. Divers are investigating. (S.O. 1st M/S F. 1335B/8.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.9.C.

Request you include NESTOR JUPITER at Greenock and LIGHTNING at Scapa in your orders for W.S.9. (C). (R.A.D) H.F. 1122B/8 to C. in C.W.A.)

Independent Ships.

My 1907/26/5. In future merchant ships routed independently for overseas are to be provided with return routes to Oban and Loch Ewe in addition to a route to Clyde. Ships should return to Clyde if they require repairs which they are unable to effect themselves. (D.T.D. 1929B/8 to N.C.S.O's.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders.

My 1819B/2. FRUMENTON arrived safely.
Two ships overdue in W. Indies from U.K., possibly U Boat casualties.
QQQQ from unknown ship in 01° 18' S., 30° 00' W., on 5/7. Yugo-Slav ANTEMATKOVIC, estimated to have been in this position. Single line bearings on 7/7 confirm presence of enemy unit either N. or S. of Ascension. No position can be given.
Incomplete QQQQ on 26/6 in 88° 16' E. may have been from MAREEBA overdue at Colombo from Java. She was sighted in 8° 30' N., 89° E., on 25/6.
Now known CRAFTSMAN attacked 9/4 (Fact) not 23/4. Position presumably further north.
(D.D.I.C., 1739B/8)

North Atlantic.

0.23 orders.

Your 2130A/7 proceed through (P) 37° 30' 000° 00' (Q) 036° 15' 002° 15'.W. Spanish submarines are exercising between Aguilas and Cartagena.
German LISBOA and ELIZABETH FISSER left Valencia 5th and 6th respectively for Marseilles and Savona. (F.O.C.N.A., 0236A/8 to 0.23).

Departures.

H.G. 67

FOXHOUND, DEPTFORD 0.24 AVON VALE, SPIREA, JONQUIL ERIN M.L. 129 with H.G.67. M.L. 129 part company at 2100A/8, FOXHOUND at 1200A/9, AVON VALE at 2100A/12. ERIN (?and) cable ship MIRROR part company when instructed by Commodore. JONQUIL, SPIREA and 0.24 will part company as (?instructed by) C. in C. W.A.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 0628A/8 to Admty, C. in C. W.A., F.O.S.)

LAVENDER.

Ponta Delgada departure 1430 G.M.T. LAVENDER routed in accordance with my 1122A/7.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1048A/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

PINZON.

Desired to utilise for conveyance of cased petrol on West African Coast. Request you sail her to Freetown. (D.O.D. (F) 1358B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

HERMIONE

Admty 1525B/5 and 1308B/1. Move patrol line 60 miles to S.W. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1402B/8 to HERMIONE).
Admty 1525B/5, 2047B/6 and 1402B/8. When should HERMIONE leave patrol to proceed to Gibraltar?
(F.O.C.N.A., 1650B/8 to Admty).

/Returning to.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

HERMIONE Contd.	Returning to Gibraltar in accordance with A.M. 1525B/5. E.T.A. 1400A/9. (HERMIONE, 1700A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your 1650B/8. Assume patrolling from p.m./7 to p.m./9 returning to Gibraltar to arrive p.m./10 She should comply with this if practicable. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2241B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)
French Ships.	Departure 7/7 French PRESIDENT LAVIT, COURDONNE, 8/7 French JEANNE DENISE. (Bilbao 1549/8 to M. of W.T.)
PETUNIA.	Approved to enter Ponta Delgada to complete with fuel on 10/7. Sail after 23 hours in harbour and continue patrol. Further orders follow for you and PEEBLES. (F.O.C.N.A., 1736A/8 to PETUNIA).
LEYLAND	Intend to sail with Convoy H.G.68 for refitting and leave in U.K. Request name of refitting Port. (F.O.C.N.A., 1754A/8 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

RAMO.	Overdue shipping, cancel my 1205/7, RAMO arrived Beira. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0725Z/8).
BALZAC	Your 1738B/7 no news. (N.C.S.O., Pernambuco, 0845/8 to Admty).
Air raid on Freetown.	Foreign A/C over Freetown 6/7 (a) Glenn Martin (b) apparently returned Conakry (c) 60 to 3,000 feet (d) 0723 to 0750 hours. Ships in harbour hit by M.G. and cannon shells. (Commander Sierra Leone Area, 1545/8 to W.O.)
VILLE DE TAMATAVE.	Your 1314N/6. Following from M.E.W. Ship and cargo less 207 tons tobacco will be seized. (D.E.W.D., 1736B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)
NEWCASTLE.	Wearing flag R.A.S.A.D. arrived Montevideo 1800 G.M.T./8 and intend to leave 1800 G.M.T./10. (R.A.S.A.D., 1810Z/8 to Admty, C. in C. S.A.)

/CITY OF AGRA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

CITY OF AGRA.	Have you any news of CITY OF AGRA from Trinidad due 3/7? (D.T.D. 1908B/8 to N.C.S.O. Capetown).
EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA, PRETORIA CASTLE.	F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1721B/7. Should be sailed for U.K. via Trinidad as soon as practicable. (D.O.D. (F) 2019B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)
NORDERNEY German.	Para reports maintaining steam. C.3 source states she is leaving tonight. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2052Z/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)
Enemy Unit.	Simonstown indications suggest surface unit within 60 miles of line joining 025° 018° 30' W and 030° S., 020° W., on 7/7. Reliability 50%. (C. in C. S.A., 2055N/8 to S.A. Sqdn).
L L Sweepers.	Request two further LL Sweepers fitted with S.A. gear if possible may be allocated to Freetown for West African area making six total. (C. in C. S.A., 2135N/8 to Admty). Reply 2011/10.
HIMALAYA Italian.	Rio de Janeiro reports has loaded nothing in past week and sailing date appears quite indefinite. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2217Z/8 to S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

A/C Attack.	Am being attacked by enemy aircraft 10 S.E. Famagusta. (I.I.P. (not known) 0645/8 to Alexandria W/T).
DERNA (German).	Left 7/7 for Genoa. (Barcelona, 0700/8).
Haifa Air Raid.	Following is repetition of my 0429/8 addressed C. in C. Med., Air raid Haifa between 0145 and 0345. Mines dropped inside harbour. Port closed. (ends). (C.S. 7 0730/8 to C. in C. Med.,) My 0710/8. Port Haifa is now open. Following dangerous areas exist. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1848/8.)

/Enemy M.V.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy M.V. — P.C. and S. of enemy M.V. 36.52 N., 30.46 E. (Nore W/T 0915/8).

Enemy Fleet. — P.C. and S. of enemy battle fleet are 26.03 N., -23.05. 260° 10 knots.
(A/C No. 1 Sqdn., 0925/8 to Group H.Q. M.E.)
Your 0925 repeat position and type.
(Group H.Q. M.E., 1024/8 to A/C of Cyprus Sqdn.)

Roumanian Shipping. — From American sources in Roumania.
(a) Germans reorganizing port facilities Braila and Galatz. (b) All Bulgarian and Roumanian shipping left in Black Sea is sheltering at Bourgas and (?Varna)
Above (A.1.) (N.A. Ankara, 1054/8).

Beirut bombed Nicosia bombed. — Operational Summary 393 up to 1200 hours 8.7.1941.
Night July 7/8, 3 Wellingtons bombed Beirut. Direct hit on fuel tanks. Cyprus, 7/7 Nicosia Aerodrome twice bombed by formations of 6 and 7 JU. 88's respectively. Details of A/Cs destroyed and damaged. 2 petrol dumps destroyed. Civilians casualties.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1108/8).

Alexandria bombed and mined. — Part 2 Egypt. Night 6/7, about 20 unidentified A/C dropped mines and bombs in Alexandria Harbour Area. Few civilian casualties only.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1111/8).

Enemy M.V. — P.C. and S. of one M.V.36.07 N., 29.51 E., 300, 4 attacked. (A/C P.3 Sqn. 1140/8 to Grp. H.Q.)

Submarines. — Movement Summary 31. (Capt. S.1. 1151C/8) See Lion Copy.

UPHOLDER M.V. sunk. — Reports at 0634/1 in 37.53 15.06 fired three torpedoes at CITTA DI GENOVA class A.M.C. westbound escorting 3 M.V.s. Torpdoes probably ran under. 0640/3 in 37.55 15.43 sighted westbound French tanker escorted by similar A.M.C., target passed out of range. At 1142/3 in 37.54 15.44 fired 3 torpedoes at westbound heavily laden M.V. of about 5500 tons in convoy of three escorted by destroyer and A.M.C. Second two hits with mark 8 observed to sink at 1330. Immediate counter attack. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1223B/8).

/ILEX.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

ILEX. C. in C. Med.,11010/7 and A.T. 2223B/20 ILEX now at Port Said is expected to be ready for ocean passage about 19/7. Can she be taken in hand for permanent repairs at Bombay or other Port in India?. (D.O.D.(F) 1236B/8 to F.O.C.R.I.N. amended 1820B/8).

Syria. Your 1025. (N.T. in W.D.) Regret turn support impracticable today. (C.S. 15 1406/8 to N.L.O. Palestine).
Request fighter protection for ships off Damur from 0530/9 and withdrawing to Haifa about 0600. Total requirements ? 3 hours.
(C.S. 15 1820/8 to A.O.C. R.A.F. P.& T.J.)
Your 2040/8. (N.T. in W.R.) Regret there are no other targets. (M.I.J.I., 22460/8 to C.S.15).

Mines. REGENT obtained suspected mine contacts to nathward when patrolling on line 250° from 3 PALMS between 5 and 15 miles from shore.
(Capt. S.1. 1435C/8, to TRIUMPH, TAKU).

Malta Raid. C.S.R. to 1600 hours. 7/8. Night 7/8 1 enemy aircraft over bombs (?) Hal Far no damage or casualties.

Tripoli bombed and mined. 5 Swordfish 830 Sqn. laid cucumbers approaches Tripoli Harbour, 2 Swordfish dropped 2500 lbs bombs from 1200 and 700 feet near miss. Medium M/DC outside harbour and stick along Spanish mole hitting searchlight and putting it out. 6 Wellingtons 148 Sqnd. bombed Tripoli engine sheds and railway sidings. (-H.Q. Malta, 1630/8).

Sale of Spanish ships. Valencia reports Naviera Levantisup has bought SAN ISIDOR, SAN JUAN II, CARMEN, VICENTE, ADEJE, ISORE and TRUJILLO. Company and manager are on statutory list (?but-) reported (B 2) as cloak for German organisation Sofindus. (N.A. Madrid, 1635/8 to Admty) Mostly 200/300 ton ships, believed intended for use in transporting ore from Spanish Mediterranean ports to Marseilles and Savona for German interests. (D.S. 674, 10/7).

Genoa Mines. Your 1048/5 not to Admty. Spanish S.S. FELIPE CRESPI sunk about 24/6 27/6 outside Genoa (?believed) by mine. Four survivors. Sources three different shipping companies including owners. S.S. CARANZA crew reported refused to sail in consequence. (N.A. Madrid, 1643/8 to S.O.(I) Gib).

/Enemy .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

Enemy Destroyers.	Have Vichy Destroyers been sighted in Beirut or elsewhere on Coast? (C. in C. Med., 17370/8 to N.O.I.C. Haifa).
STROMBO (Italian)	Expected to sail Aegean during night 8 - 9/7 (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1825/8).
SEEFALKE	German motor tug SEEFALKE arrived Istanbul from Aegean midday/7, expected to sail for Varna a.m. /9. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1848/8).
Haifa Air Raid.	C.A.F.O. 587/40. Air raid on Haifa lasted 0130 to 0330/8 4 or 5 mines dropped in harbour one of which has since been exploded by LL sweep action. Port closed pending completion of anti mining operations. One unexploded C type mine dropped by parachute. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1848/8 to C. in C. Med).
Benghazi and Beirut bombed.	Prelim. Op. Summary. 22. Night 7/8. 4 Wellingtons Benghazi 4 Aleppo and Beirut. Fires base Central Mole Benghazi. Direct hit fuel tanks fire visible 80 miles Beirut. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1901/8).
Enemy M.V.	P.C. and S. of 1 enemy merchant ship at 1140/8 036° 07' 029° 51' 300° 4. (Capt. S.1. 19250/8 to Greek S/M PAPANICOLIS).
Vichy ships in Turkey.	Your 2354B/7. (a) Reliable reports of 3 Vichy French ships including ST. DIDIER expected to pass southern coast of Turkey in attempt to reinforce Syria. Telegram received from C. in C. Med., highly probable these ships will use Turkish territorial waters and fly Turkish flag. (b) Danger in view of above to legitimate Turkish shipping these waters causing concern to C. in C. Med., who desires early information of all such sailings in order warn British Forces. (c) Request local Turkish authorities inform British Consuls in south Turkish port in advance. (N.A. Angora, 2039/8 to Admty).

/GORIZIA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

GORIZIA BOLZANO. Foreign broadcasts from Rome deny sinking or damage to cruiser GORIZIA. Possible that the cruiser torpedoed and sunk by URGE on 29/6 was the BOLZANO. (D.S., 672 8/7).

ATLAS (German). Arrival 6/7. (Valencia 2400/8).

East Indies.

Mine - Watching. In Shatt-el-Arab. Reply to Admty. 1604/28. Requirements. (C. in C. E.I., 0754Z/8 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

ATREUS. My 0756/5. for consideration whether to use ATREUS for freight in Indian Ocean, ATREUS then being at about one month's notice for mining service. Pending decision ATREUS is remaining at Aden. (C. in C. E.I., 1000Z/8 to Admty) Reply 2343B/9.

COLOMBO. My 0746/7. Date of leaving Mombasa will now be 16/7. (C. in C. E.I., 1108Z/8 to COLOMBO).

Iraq and Iran. C. in C. E.I., 1940Z/8. See Operations Volume.

China.

VELEBIT. Yugoslav VELEBIT due Moulmein 30/6 from Colombo not arrived. (S.O.(I) Singapore, 0135Z/8 to Admty).

Indo-China. Messages from De Coux dated 2/7 and 3/7 re oil, rubber etc. (C. in C China 1153Z/8 and 1155Z/8) See Lion Copy.

F.E.W. 38. Thai - Indo China Peace Treaty ratified on 5/7. Japanese Policy. (C.O.I.S. Far East, Singapore, 1110Z/8) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

MALAYA.	My 1235/18. Following programme of MALAYA approved subject to your concurrence. (B.A.R.M. 1012/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.) Concur (C. in C. A.W.I. 1002Q/9).
ELLINICO.	Your 1739B/7 Greek ELLINICO reported by N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1856/17/6 as due Wabana 26/6. No news. (N.C.S.O., St. John's N.F., 1123Z/8 to Admty).
U.S. and Iceland.	Survey party being sent Iceland by U.S. Navy delayed; following information meantime urgently required. (B.A.D., Washington, 1145R/8).
O.B. Convoys.	My 1903Z/24 and Admty 1835B/21 1153B/26, 1646B/29 and 1649B/29 dealing with O.B. convoys 340, 341, 343 and 344 respectively. Considerable difficulty is still being experienced in estimating position of O.B. convoys. Suggestion. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1515Z/8 to Admty).
S/M Report.	S.O.(I) Jamaica 1543R/8. (See U-Boat Campaign).
DIDO.	Request DIDO be directed to arrive at Ambrose Channel Entrance Buoy at 2100Z/25 Vessel is expected on (date). (B.A.R.M., 2340/8 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/Ms Reported.

0850. Italian submarine bearing 253° 2nd class at 0850 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 1023/8 to N.A. Stn.)

2330/5 } If nothing found by 2000B/8 return to Shoeburyness.
1449/6 } (C. in C. W.A., 1037B/8 to PERIWINKLE).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1359B/8).

1318 At 1318Z Italian U-Boat 255° class 3. Different U-Boat to that reported in my 1023.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1441/8 to N.A. Stn).

1915. Am over enemy submarine in 48.42 N., 7.03 W.
(A/C 1915/8 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Enemy C. and S. are 090° 8. Enemy submarine previously reported has dived.
(A/C 1920/8 to Plymouth, 19 Group H.Q.)

1915 For information own aircraft report 049° 32' N 001° 09' W at 1915, U boat dived heading for Brest.
(F.O.S., 2021B/8 to TIGRIS, SOKOL, SEALION).

1918 German Submarine bearing 277° 1st at 1918 G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2035A/8 to N.A. Stn).

2000 Following intercept from Eire (begins) - Submarine of unknown nationality in territorial waters convenient to Howe Strand between Old Head of Kinsale and Court Macsherry at 2000/8. (ends) Presumably this is B.S.T. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2223B/8 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

30/6. S.O.(I) Montevideo reports fisherman sighted large submarine in approx. 019.09 S., 039.05 W., 30/6. B.2. R.A.S.A.D. S.O.(I) Freetown informed.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1543R/8 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By M.L. — Depth charge attack carried out at 1155, 053° 30' N., 005° 02' W.
(M.L. 258, 1220/8 to Admty?)

By A/C — Am over enemy S/M in 46.32 N., 9.08 W.
(A/C Duty U, 1439/8 to 19 R Group)
Enemy S/M previously reported has dived, attacked, result nil.
(A/C Duty U, 1446/8).
Enemy submarine sighted again 46.43 N., 8.50 W., enemy submarine has dived.
(A/C U, 1545/8, to 19 Group H.Q.) (F.O.S. 1921B/8 to SEALION).

By A/C — T T T Am investigating suspicious wake or swirl in position. 48.10 N., 8.54 W. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate nil hits.
(A/C L.L. of No. 19 Sqnd. 1500/8 to 19 Group H.Q.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Aircraft report sighting at 1500 today 15 ships six of which appeared to be E-boats steering 50° between Guernsey and Cherbourg.

U.S. Destroyers and aircraft are maintaining A/S patrols off Iceland (C).

Aircraft photographs show the existence of a -new enemy naval base in Aas Fiord near Trondheim.

It is intended to start a two day cycle of the various Coastal Convoys between Portsmouth and Milford Haven on 17/7.

Enemy Air Operations.

The Air Ministry consider that the German long range bomber effort last night represents an intensive effort for the forces located on the Western Front which comprise about 300 long range bombers.

At 0130/9 3 H.E. bombs were dropped in the harbour area at Aberdeen, causing some damage.

Convoy E.C. 43 was bombed about 0104 in 53° 5' N., 1° 30' E.

There was an air raid on Yarmouth again last night. Naval damage was slight and ineffective.

A few bombs dropped in the Portsmouth area last night caused very slight damage.

One enemy aircraft dropped bombs on Portland Dockyard at 0334 today. Very slight damage was caused..

A few bombs were dropped on Plymouth between 0033 and 0340 today. No serious Naval damage was caused.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

The barge BLUE MERMAID, mined and destroyed off Clacton this evening.

It is reported that 3 southbound German transports were sunk today on a Swedish minefield off Oland.

Mediterranean.

3 Hurricanes last night made a successful attack on float planes at Syracuse.

Libya and Western Desert.

7 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night and one, Derna. 14 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli, obtaining hits on a 12,000 ton ship, on two 10,000 ton liners and on a 7,000 ton ship.

Vichy Auxiliary warships at Iskanderun.

A Vichy French armed Trawler and an auxiliary tanker of 5,000 to 6,000 tons arrived at Iskanderun this afternoon. The Turkish authorities state that the ships are now under their protection and that they will be disarmed and interned, and they ask that no offensive action shall be taken against them by the British.

Libya and Western Desert.

DECOY was slightly damaged by air attack this morning, whilst returning from Tobruk to Alexandria.

7 Blenheims attacked shipping in Tripoli harbour this evening. Four Blenheims are missing, one of which, shot down in flames over the harbour by A.A. crashed on a torpedo boat, setting it on fire.

Palestine and Syria.

M.T.B.68 entered Beirut harbour last night and depth-charged two merchant ships alongside the mole.

The port of Haifa is now open.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

An aircraft attacked a submarine with bombs at 1030 today in reported position 48° 47' N. 8° 23' W and estimated that 4 hits were secured. It seems probable that the submarine was TUNA who reported that she was heavily bombed by an aircraft at 1030B/9 and was proceeding on patrol.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Holyhead A.P. — Your 1714B/4. Approved. When proposing re-allocations request you will consider whether any boats can be released to other Commands for anti-invasion duties if you have not urgent tasks for them within your Command. (A.C.N.S.H. 1836B/9 to C. in C. W.A.).

SEVERN and CLYDE. — C. in C. Med. 18060/6. My opinion that SEVERN and CLYDE should not be used in Mediterranean for routine patrols is unaltered. The risk to these S/Ms. is greater than to other types and unless additional risks are justifiable for a particularly important operation these S/Ms. should not I consider be employed in Mediterranean. Their high speed may at any time be a good asset in the Atlantic. (F.O.S. 1914B/9 to Adty.).

Intercepted French Ships. — Para. 2 of your 2230B/6 does not accurately convey the sense of para. (b) of Admty.0130B/4. Request you will amend your 2230B/6 accordingly. (V.C.N.S. 2054B/9 to F.O.C.N.P).

Co-operation with Russia.

British Naval Mission. — Interviewed Admiral Kuznetzov this morning. Details. (No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow 2140/9 to War Office). See Lion Copy.

Movements.

PRINCE OF WALES. — C. in C. H.F. 2253/5 and A.S. Rosyth's 1815/8. Propose following amended programme.
2. Above considered to be minimum time required to ensure that ship can provide some small measure of self protection on passage North. If this is not required ship could sail on 19/7. (PRINCE OF WALES 1009/9).

AURORA. MANCHESTER. ARETHUSA. — On completion of practices P.M. today take MANCHESTER and ARETHUSA under your orders and proceed Clyde. (C. in C. H.F. 1326B/9 to AURORA).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

A/S Patrols.

3 U.S. Destroyers are maintaining an A/S Patrol to (? South) of line Grotta Akranes. (A.C.I.C. 1253/9 to DEVONSHIRE).
PRESTON NORTH END and CELIA are proceeding to carry out an A/S patrol on a line 310° from Noup Head for 60 miles. (A.C.O.S. 1940/9).

TUNA.

Cancel my 1811B/8. Proceed on the surface at your discretion through 049° 25' N., 011° W. 046° N., 011° W. 046° N. 007° W. to patrol in Bay of Biscay South zone in accordance with F.S.C. Details of patrol zone follow. T.B.R. arranged up to last position. (F.O.S., 1319B/9 to TUNA).

Two German Destroyers Sunk.

Russians claim to have sunk two JAGUAR-class Destroyers in Gulf of Riga on 6/7. Admiral Kuznetzov confirms this, but not the actual class. (No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow 2140/9 to War Office). See Lion Copy.

British Air Activity.

Air Attack on TUNA.

Am over enemy submarine in 48° 47' N 8° 23' W. Have attacked with bombs level and estimate 4 hits. (A/C Duty Y 1030/9 to 19. R Group H.Q.)
U-boat steering 260° attacked by A/C in 48° 47' N. 08° 23' W. at 1030/9 and possibly damaged. After taking off crew of Sunderland, sink it, and proceed to search for U-boat assuming she surfaces at dark and makes for Brest or Lorient. To keep clear of SOKOL do not proceed E. of 7° W. when S. of 49° N. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1921/9 to BROCKLESBY).
Your 1621B/9. I was heavily bombed by one A/C at 1030B/9. My position 049° 16' N 008° 58' W. course 263° proceeding in accordance with your 1811B/8. (TUNA, 2210B/9).

Harrying U-Boats in Orkneys and Shetlands.

Your 1300/8 and my 1738/7. If permanent patrol not practicable request one A/S search daily in the area named in my 1738/7. Time of search to be varied. 2. Close A/S escort will normally be provided by Fleet resources. A special signal will be made if this cannot be done. (C. in C. H.F. 1416B/9 to C. in C. Rosyth).
Your 1416/9/7. Patrol will be carried out by Whitley Aircraft from 1830/9 to 0200/10. (C. in C. Rosyth 1730/9 to C. in C. H.F.)
My 1730/9. Understand patrol will be flown from 0200 until 1400 daily by A/C from Twatt. 18 Group will maintain patrol for remainder of 24 hours if practicable. (C. in C. Rosyth 2036/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Patrols.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Patrols. U.S. Air Patrol working from Hvalfiord is operating in the area 25 miles from Skagi. (A.C.I.C. 1253/9 to DEVONSHIRE). Your letter of 23/6. The proposed air Patrols are very satisfactory. (KING GEORGE V. C.O.S. 2330B/9 to A.C.N.S.H).

Ostend Helder Rotterdam attacked. On day 8/7 the Docks at Ostend and Helder and the Oil Storage at Rotterdam were attacked. (H.Q.B.C. 1640/9).

North Sea R/C Situation. No. 114 Squadron. AP/66 9/7 2151B/2. A.O.C. in C. concurs in proposal to return No. 114 Squadron to Bomber Command. Consider present situation permits adequate R/C of North Sea with Squadrons on the East Coast including available aircraft of Nos. 500 and 608 Squadrons. If situation demands it East Coast Squadrons could be reinforced from Hudson Squadrons in the West. (H.Q.C.C. 1955/9 to Adty.).

818 Sqdn. On completion of foreign service leave 818 Squadron equipped with 9 Swordfish is to undergo a course in Army co-operation duties. (5th S.L. 2005B/9 to V.A.N.A.S).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C. 43. Enemy A/C bombing Convoy 'Might'. My psoition 53° 5' N. 1° 30' E. (WHADDON 0104/9) (WIDGEON 0112/9).

Plymouth bombed. Several enemy aircraft in area between 0033 and 0340/9. Slight damage North Yard and R.W. Yard. Details. (C. in C. Plymouth 0427/9, S.C.E. D'port 1630/9).

Portland bombed. Attack by one enemy aircraft on Portland Dockyard at 0334/9. 5 bombs. Superficial damage to 2 small surface craft, also Dockyard crane and railway line damaged by debris. (F.O.I.C. Portland 0750B/9, O.C.W. Portland 1700/9).

/Yarmouth.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

M.T.B.5. (Accidental explosion 30/6). My 1256B/1. M.T.B. 5 is considered to be a total loss. (V.A. Dover 1701B/9).

EDINBURGH. Is 9½ months out of dock, (?resulting in) estimated loss 3 knots and 12% increase fuel consumption at maximum speed. Propose ship is docked for 24 hours on arrival or as soon as dock is available. (F.O.C., 18th C.S. 1832A/9).

VALOROUS. At 0730 today VALOROUS struck submerged object in 052° 46' N., 001° 56' 10" E. No apparent damage but request Diver may examine post and rudder on arrival at Sheerness. (VALOROUS 1231B/9 to C. in C. Nore).
(C. in C. Nore 2253B/9 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Shipping and Convoys.

Route and Vesca Signals. Requirements of VESCA system are outlined in A.M. 1956/17/3. Instructions regarding VESCA Signal are embodied in A.M. 1406B/13/6 and 2024B/6/7, and instructions regarding Route Signal in 1954/7/7. Impress upon all N.C.S.O.s absolute importance of strict compliance with instructions contained therein. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1100B/9 to Cs. in C.)

M.H. Convoys. To expedite coastal traffic. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven to sail northbound convoys on days when no O.B.M. or O.G.M. departure. These will be known as M.H. (Milford Holyhead) convoys. Instructions. (C. in C. W.A., 1133B/9). See Lion Copy.

Kites and Balloons. In accordance with agreement reached regarding flying of kites and balloons at night by merchant ships in convoy on the east coast it is proposed to issue the following instructions.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1741B/9 to Air Min.)

Convoy T.C. 12. Composition, date of leaving Halifax, etc. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1743B/9 to R.A. 3 etc). See Lion Copy.
Escort. (See America and West Indies).

/Coastal .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

Coastal Convoys. 2-day cycle to start on 17/7. (C. in C. Plymouth 1812/9 to Admty etc). See Lion Copy.

H.X. 133. Met as arranged. Fog for first five days. Attacked by U/Boats from 40° W. to 18° W. Ships sunk:- SOLOY, BROCKLEY HILL, MALAYA II, MAASDAM and GRAYBURN. Damaged and arrived KONGSGAARD and TIBIA. Straggler VIGRID sunk. Anti U/B operations particularly successful.
(D.T.D., 1827B/9 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Cam Ships. Normally stationed in rear of convoys, but are not to be detailed as Rescue Ships.
From overseas assembly ports Cam ships and those fitted with Bofors gun are to be indicated in Part II para. 9 of convoy sailing telegram by letter C. or B. respectively after name of ship.
(D.T.D. 1916B/9 to N.C.S.O.s).

D.S.8 ULSTER MONARCH, ROYAL SCOTSMAN, ROYAL ULSTERMAN, are required to sail in convoy D.S. 8 (Date) from Clyde. ULSTER MONARCH and ROYAL SCOTSMAN will be required for exercises on return.
(D.C.O., 2249B/9 to V.A.C.T.C.)

F.N. and F.S. convoys. Additional escorts. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2359/9 to C. in C. Nore, etc). See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Convoys.	For M.E.W., passed 8th. French Ships Westward PENERF in ballast ILE ROUSSE, BOREAL both full. Eastward AISNE, BRESTOIS, OUED SEBOU II, SAINTE ODETTE, all full. (F.O.C.N.A., 0919A/9 to Admty).
FURY.	May call at Ponta Delgada about 11/7 and if so will require about 300 tons oil fuel. (D.O.D. (F) 1325B/9 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).
CHALLENGER STARWORT.	Ponta Delgada departure 1945 G.M.T./8 routed in accordance with my 1124A/7. (F.O.C.N.A., 1056A/9 to C. in C. S.A.)
Force H. NELSON.	S.O. Force H's. 2256A/5, concur. Suggest NELSON should remain with S.O. Force H after convoy W.S. 9 C. If suitable relief can be found I would like her to give leave in August. (C. in C. H.F., 1524B/9 to Admty).
KERSTEN MILES (German).	Reliably informed she intends filling up with gas oil fuel. (Consul, Las Palmas, 1615/9).
A/C attack on Convoy 1/7.	Your 1718B/4 which is being passed to C. in C. S.A. Objects sighted falling 2 miles on port bows of convoy at 1005/1. These considered by Commodore in PALACIO and master of LEADGATE to have been jettisoned bombs which did not explode. Only report of parachute mines came from master of SAGAING whose ship was on starboard side of convoy, report considered probably unreliable. SAGAING proceeding to Capetown without calling at Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1924B/9 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY German.	At Para, maintaining steam C.3 report states leaving night of 8/7. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1132N/9 to Admty).
ORION.	C. in C. Med., 1532/22/6 which is being passed to Simonstown, ORION requires to dock before she is fit to undertake ocean passage. Estimated time in dock 2 weeks. Propose she sails p.m./11 arriving Simonstown a.m./13. (N.L.O., Durban, 1410Z/9 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/Aircraft.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Aircraft and Merchant ships.	System of recognition. (C. in C. S.A., 2049N/9 to Admty Amended 0756N/10) See Lion Copy.
BABITONGA (German).	Intelligence, from 24/4 to 14/6, and deduction as to further raider movements. (C. in C. S.A., to C. in C. E.I., 2241N/9) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

Middle East Campaigns.	Situation. Personal to Gen. Collins from Shearer. (C. in C. M.E., 0240/9 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.
Haifa bombed.	Night 7/8. Haifa heavily bombed by JU. 88s or Vichy aircraft. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1104/9) See also 1919/9.
Alexandria.	Op. Summary No. 394 Part 2. Night 7/8. 1 unidentified aircraft dropped bombs near Amiriya Alexandria. No damage.
Benghazi bombed.	Night 7/8. 3 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting 2 large fires and explosions on railway sidings at base of Cathedral Mole. Further fires started near base of Central Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1106/9).
Syria.	Situation Report. General tendency of Vichy forces is to retire and reinforce Damour sector. (N.L.O. Palestine, 1203C/9 to C.S. 15). Situation considerably improved. Damour Area cleared up. No known target for ships. Consider support tomorrow would be moral only. (N.L.O. Palestine, 2055C/9 to C.S. 15). My 1706/9 (N.T. in W.D.) fighter protection not available bombardment. Army consider bombardment risky owing to involved situation forward area. Patrols nearing Beyrout. Return to harbour on completion of night sweep. (C.S. 15 2124/9 to C.S.7).
OSIRIS RORQUAL.	OSIRIS leaves Malta 2000B/9 (route) arrive Anti Kithera a.m./15 Kaso p.m./16 and Alexandria a.m./19 Request any information of West Coast of Greece and condition of Southern Aegean may be signalled direct to OSIRIS. My 1215B/7 RORQUAL leaves Malta 2000B/10 (route) along Cyrenaican Coast to 0230 20' thence to Alexandria as directed by you. Anticipate she will arrive Apollonia p.m./13 and Alexandria a.m./17. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1330B/9 to Capt. S.1. 1335 B/9 to TAKU, TRIUMPH, CACHALOT).

/Enemy Units.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Units. 2 destroyers 3 M.Vs. bearing 180° distant 3 miles approx. course 120°. My position 37.30 N., 23. 50 E., (A/C Duty R, 1400/9).
My R.I. P.C. and S. of enemy battlefleet are 37.28 N., 23.52 E. 122° 10 knots.
(A/C Duty R., 1415/9) (Capt. S.I., 1607C/9 to TORBAY).

TRIUMPH TAKU. Leave patrol 21th to arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0451/17 (route) TAKU will be off Apollonia noon/12 proceed thence 032° 38' 020° 00'.
(Capt. S.I.1429C/9 to TRIUMPH).

TORBAY. You will be required to leave patrol 15th to arrive Alexandria 19th.
(Capt. S.I. 1543C/9 to TORBAY).

Malta Air Raid. Night 8/9/7 air attack on Luqa and Kalafrana, bombs over wide area, no casualties or damage. Part 2. 8/7. Photo R/Cs Naples and Taranto unsuccessful due weather. Part 3. 9/7.

Syracuse Raid. 4 Hurricanes attacked 6 Float planes probably Cant Z.506's on water Syracuse. 3 Floatplanes burnt out 5 others severely damaged. Casualties among crews on slipway. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/9).

STROMBO (Italian). Sailed 1640/8 destination Trieste.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1704/9 to C. in C. Med).
STROMBO sailed from Istanbul 1845C/8 at estimated speed of 7 knots after temporary repair.
Proceed to Zea Channel to intercept. Return to Area A to arrive by daylight/12.
(Capt. S.I. 2011C/9 to TORBAY).

Chiefs of Staff No 145.

ANTIKLIA damaged. ANTIKLIA sustained damage by near misses. Estimate repairs 21 days. (D.S.T.O. Alexandria 1804/9 to D. of S.T.)

Operations Against -Libya Transports. Appreciate enterprise and gallantry with which submarines and aircraft have operated against enemy line of communication to Africa resulting in -heavy toll of ships during last two months. Hope Naval and Air Forces engaged are aware of supreme importance of these operations in defence of Egypt; confident they will spare no effort to make their attacks even more effective.
(1st S.L. 1818B/9 to C. in C. Med).

/Enemy Units.. .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Units. XX2 MY 1, enemy course 170° and speed 7. (F/B L, 2160, 1840/9 to Group H.Q. M.E.)

Haifa Raid. C.A.F.O. 587/40. Air raid 0126 - 0359/8 by 15 to 20 aircraft identified as Heinkel 111. About 30 to 35 H.E. and incendiary bombs over a wide area, 4/5 mines in harbour (e) (1) no damage (11) no casualties (f) no Naval A/A batteries ashore (k) H.M.Ships in harbour in action during attack. 2 enemy aircraft possibly hit. Port closed for approx. 12 hours. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1919/9 to C. in C. Med).

Beirut. Following from H.Q. P & T.J. Photographic reconnaissance of Beirut at 1630 today shows sloops and S/Ms have left harbour also believed one merchant ship has left. One merchant ship is 006°. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1943/9 to C.S. 7).

Benghazi Bombed. Prelim. Op. Summary No.23. Night 8/9. 7 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi causing large fire base Cathedral Mole, fires and explosions central Mole. One Wellington bombed Derna results not observed. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 2026/9).

M.V. 237 R.N. (sighting of unidentified merchant ships.) Your XI - has no Navicert. C. in C. wished check of course made good but return to base now if visibility unfavourable. Don't sink her. (Group H.Q. 2115/9 to F/B L. 2160).

Vichy Ships from Syria in Turkey. Following from N.A. Angora. Vichy French ?Armed Trawler and Auxiliary Tanker of between 5,000 and 6,000 tons arrived Iskanderun at 1400 and 1600 respectively 9/7. Turkish authorities have informed Embassy that both ships will be disarmed and will be interned. Ships are now under Turkish protection and it is urgently requested no offensive action will be taken by British. More Vichy French ships from Syria port expected Iskanderun. T.O.O. 1554/9. (C. in C. Med., 2215/9 to C.S. 15. C.S. 7 N.O.I.C. Haifa).

Situation Report No. 81 Army report Damur captured and heavy pall of smoke over Beirut. M.T.B.68 entered Beirut harbour night 8/9 and depth charged two merchant ships alongside Mole. Haifa. Port now open. Western Desert. DECOY slightly damaged by near miss a.m./9 while returning from Tobruk to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 2301C/9 to admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

"Q" Report (cancelled). Q distress message was made by NIZAM 2150Z/8 in 012° 40' N 047° 05' E. Disregard. Ship concerned was BOTLEA. (C. in C. E.I., 0002Z/9 to E.I. Sqdn. 0534 G.M.T. /9 to G.B.M.S.)

Overdue ships. S.O.(I) Colombo 1138/2. My 0450/5 and S.O.(I) Singapore 0135/8. It is not at present considered that apparent disappearance of MAREEBA and VELEBIT is due to enemy action. There has been bad weather in Bay of Bengal. (C. in C. E.I., 0636Z/9 to Admty).

CITY OF DUNKIRK, URBINO. Have you any news of CITY OF DUNKIRK from Lourenco Marques due 1/7 and URBINO from Durban due 2/7. (D.T.D. 1918B/9 to N.C.S.O. Bombay).

VELEBIT. Have you any news of Yugoslav VELEBIT from Colombo due Moulmein 30/6? (D.T.D. 1952B/9 to N.C.S.O. Rangoon).

U.S. Ships and W/T. Consider all American Ships should endeavour to keep W/T Silence (or at least on 500 500 k/cs) in all areas where they are likely to be attacked Request U.S. policy in these matters may be promulgated. (C. in C. E.I., 1956Z/9 to Admty).

ATREUS. Your 1000Z/8. ATREUS must remain loaded and ready to lay controlled minefields with minimum delay in the event of the strategic situation requiring a new defended base in the East. (D. of L.D. 2343B/9 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Oil for Indo-China. My 1153/8. General Manager Standard Co. arrived Singapore by Clipper yesterday concurs in loading PANGOTHIA for Indo-China. I have agreed to load up to maximum of 9,000 tons(C. in C. China, 0907Z/9 to Admty) See 2134/10

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

POLYANTHUS. Detached from O.B. 339 with 2 Merchant ships has requested her destination. Pending other instructions she has been ordered to continue to 054° W., thence to St. John's N.F. as she and other escorts ex O.B. 339 are required for H.X. 138 and S.C. 37 and will not be available if they continue to Halifax. (C.C.N.F. 0036Z/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

SOUTHERN PRINCE. My 0126/3 owing to a defect SOUTHERN PRINCE will now not leave Norfolk until 15/7.
(B.A.R.M., 0412/9 to Admty).

MALAYA. ARMUK 521 (1012/8). Concur.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1002Q/9 to MALAYA).

LEOPOLDVILLE. Your 1152Q/7. LEOPOLDVILLE urgently required in U.K. Request you will arrange for Halifax personnel to be disembarked at Bermuda and for ship to be sailed direct to U.K.
(D.T.D., 1345B/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

T.C.12. 6 Destroyers of Newfoundland escort force will be required to escort convoy T.C. 12.
(C. in C. W.A., 1713B/9 to F.O. N.F. Force)
See also Shipping and Convoys.

W.H.X. and W.S.C. Convoys Intended sailing telegrams and VESCA signals for Ships in W.H.X. and W.S.C. convoys are not required. Instructions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1808Z/9 to N.C.S.O. St. John's).

Canadian M.T.B.s. Your 1658Z/3 request you will approach Canadian Gov with view to loaning four 70 feet M.T.B.'s fitted with 18 ins. Torpedoes.
If Canadian Govt. accept proposal, intended to ship the Boats to Eastern Mediterranean.
(D.T.S.D. 1837B/9 to C.N.S. Ottawa).

MALAYA. Sailed from New York 1530Z/9. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2318Z/9 to Admty).

ANNA BULGARIS. Have you any news of Greek ANNA BULGARIS from Milford Haven due Father Point 1/7?
(D.T.D., 2354B/9 to N.C.S.O. Montreal.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 9.7.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

OBERON — Dutch, 1996 tons, message received states has been lost. Survivors landed Freetown, but 6 dead, 1 injured. Bound from Duala for Hull and had been in S.L.78. As this convoy was attacked by U/B, OBERON is presumed torpedoed. (D.S.673, 9/7.)

EMPIRE ABILITY — 38 survivors landed Freetown, but 4 of crew missing. Now known she was torpedoed in 23.50 N. 21.10 W., when in Convoy S.L.78. (D.S.673, 9/7.)

Submarines Reported.

1919Z/8 — My 2316/8 to C. in C. S.A. only.
By D/F at 1919Z/8 U-Boat in position within 30 miles of 36° 10' N. 25° 20' W.
Reliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 0041B/9 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A. etc.) (F.O.C.N.A. 0324A/9 to N.A. Stn.)

2000/8 — Falmouth is to sail 3 M.Ls. as soon as possible to attack U-boat reported N.W. part of Courtmacsherry Bay to W. of Old Head of Kinsale at 2000/8. Blenheim A/C will escort from 1st light /9.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0017/9 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth, amended 0029/9.)

1105 — P.C. and S. of enemy submarine are 48.47 N., 8.23 W. 265-6. (Weather report).
(A/C Duty Y., 1105/9 to 19 Group H.Q.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (26 German, 8 Italian).
(D.D.I.C. 1430B/9.)

1720 — By A/C in 060° 36' N. 003° 20' W. at 1720/9.
(A.C.O.S., 1909/9.)
A Sunderland A/C reported U-Boat at 1720/9 dived in 060° 36' N. 003° 20' W. A continuous air search in the area is being carried out until further orders, commencing 2000.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1922/9 to S. and A. Orkneys.)
2 destroyers proceeding from Scapa to search U-Boats in 060 36' N. 003 20' W. Aircraft are co-operating.
(AC.O.S., 2001/9, to P.31.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.7.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By TIGRIS 5/7

Destroyed Italian Submarine SQUALO Class at 1001B/5 position 045° 03' N. 004° 01' W. outward bound. E.T.A. Gate 0730B/10 LA CAPRICIEUSE in company.
(TIGRIS, 1511B/9 to F.O.S.)
(F.O.S., 1824B/9 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

It is intended to commence end to end escort of S.L, H.G, O.G and O.B south convoys, as soon as the necessary forces can be made available from the Western Approaches Command. The sloops and cutters will be withdrawn from the Newfoundland Escort Force for this purpose.

British Air Operations.

Attack on Shipping at Le Havre & Cherbourg.

Bomber Command aircraft today attacked shipping at Le Havre and Cherbourg and claim to have destroyed 6 ships aggregating 34,000 tons.

Enemy Air Operations.

The Falmouth to Milford Haven convoy called for help at 0025 today.
S.S. SVINT and STANLAKE in convoy were damaged during the early hours of this morning off Bude; the former sank later.

Mining.

Motor boat CELANO R.O.I. loaned to R.A.F. was blown up this morning in the Clyde.

/M.M.S.3.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining - Contd.

M.M.S.3 was mined and damaged this morning off Liverpool.

A motor launch was destroyed by a mine in the River Crouch this afternoon.

Mines were detonated today off Hartlepool and Milford Haven.

South Atlantic.

HERMES Scuttled — The German S.S. HERMES scuttled herself today in 4° 3' N. 34° 40' W. when intercepted by CANTON. She was flying the Dutch flag.

Mediterranean.

6 Wellingtons from Malta attacked Naples railway station last night.

Libya & Western Desert. — Benghazi was heavily bombed last night.

Suez Canal Zone. — About 15 enemy aircraft last night dropped mines and bombs in the Suez Canal Zone at Suez and Shallufa. A further enemy formation bombed Abu Sueir destroying 22 aircraft and causing much damage. The Canal is closed. S.S. ANTIKLIA (Greek was damaged.

Russian Operations — A message was sent to the Russians today, proposing certain operations to be carried out.

/Vichy .....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Vichy auxiliary warships at Iskanderun.

Further small Vichy French auxiliary warships have arrived at Iskanderun. It is stated that if they prefer not to be interned they will be ordered to sail within 24 hours of arrival.

Palestine and Syria.

It is reported that all shipping has evacuated Beirut harbour, ships being scattered in harbours to the northward. One ship, probably a tanker is left in Beirut on fire.

A Blenheim on R/C between Cyprus and Syria attacked unsuccessfully a French S/M in 33.53 N. 34.23 E. A second S/M was sighted but not attacked.

A Blenheim attacked an unidentified ship of 2000 tons off the Syrian Coast, scoring a near miss.

America and West Indies.

Japan

Ottawa reports from San Francisco that Japanese ships have been instructed not to proceed through Panama Canal to U.S. East Coast; and from Washington that all Japanese ships are to be clear West Pacific by 22/7.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

HIGHLANDER. VIMY has sailed for Gibraltar. Request arrangements may be made for HIGHLANDER to return to my command as soon as possible in accordance with my 1457B/19/5. (C. in C.W.A. 0930B/10 to C. in C.S.A.)

Interception of French Ships. My 2230B/6. Cancel para. (11) and substitute (11) ship is to be sunk if engine sabotaged to extent which precludes any reasonable chance of bringing her into a British or Allied Port or is to be scuttled and usual distress signal made if recapture imminent when under armed guard. (F.O.C.N.F. 1810B/10 to Western Patrol.)

ST. CERGUE. (Panamanian) Flying Panamanian flag but with Swiss colours painted on hull and deck left Rotterdam 2/7 for New York via Kiel Canal, Kattegat Sound up West coast of Norway then by German route into Atlantic. No action is to be taken by P.31 except to remain unseen if this ship is sighted. (A.C.O.S. 2219B/1 to P.31.)

3 Swedish Ships. A.M.1635/22/4 para. 2 B. The three Swedish ships named in N.P. D.S. 139 should be cleared with least possible delay and allowed to proceed to Gothenburg. (D.E.W.D. 2245B/10 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

N.F. Escort Force. In order to provide through escort from U.K. to Sierra Leone and vice versa it has become necessary to withdraw the Sloops and Cutters from Newfoundland Escort Force. Request therefore that you will sail these ships as convenient with eastbound convoys. (C. in C.W.A. 2315B/10 to C.C.N.F.)

Defence of U.K.

Yarmouth A/A Defence. Requesting N.L.O. be provided. Alternatively that local Naval Authorities will accept orders direct from local A.A.D.C. or his representative regarding control of A.A. fire. (Air Ministry 1650/10 to Adty.)

Movements.

TUNA. Cancel my 1803B/8. (F.O.S. No. T.O.O. Recd. 0047/10.)
Your 2210B/9. If undamaged proceed in accordance with F.O.(S) 1519B/9. T.B.R. arranged 30 miles either side of route. Essential that you adhere to route ordered. (F.O.S. 0259B/10 to TUNA.)

/My 0041B/10 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TUNA - Contd. My 0041B/10. TUNA has been ordered to proceed on the surface through following positions to patrol in Bay of Biscay South Zone South of 46° N. (F.O.S. 0521B/10 to C. in C.W.A. C. in C. Plymouth.)
My 1724B/9. Amend para. F. to read TUNA 49° 8'N. 11° W. proceeding probably on the surface through 46° N. 11° W. for Bay of Biscay South Zone. (F.O.S. 0519B/10 to Adty.)

ARAWA. ARAWA is to leave Clyde p.m.12th and proceed by standard route to arrive Liverpool at 1500B/13. When east of 004° W. speed is not to exceed nine knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection. (F.O.C.N.P. 1112B/10 to ARAWA.)

PRINCE OF WALES. PRINCE OF WALES's 1009B/9. Owing to other commitments PRINCE OF WALES should sail for Scapa on 19/7 if possible. (C. in C.H.F. 1410B/10.)

LIGHTNING. KRAKOWIAK. KUJAWIAK. LIGHTNING with KRAKOWIAK KUJAWIAK will be required to provide escort for NELSON to Greenock leaving 0900/11.
2. On arrival LIGHTNING enter Greenock thence act as ordered by C. in C.W.As for convoy W.S.9 C. KIYAWIAK attached return to Scapa.
3. When released KRAKOWIAK proceed Plymouth via Q.Z.F. 15 to join the command of C. in C. Plymouth. (R.A.D. H.F. 1745B/10.)

MANXMAN. You will be required to embark following army personnel and baggage at Clyde a.m./13 and following ex-PASTEUR at first port of call. (D.O.D. H. 2155B/10 to MANXMAN.)

NELSON. NELSON screened by three destroyers is to proceed to Clyde passing Hoxa Boom at 0900/11. (ii) C. in C. Rosyth and C. in C.W.A. are requested to arrange A/S air escort during daylight hours. (C. in C.H.F. 2251B/9.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

9th M/L Flotilla. A/S Sweep. Subject to limitations of fuel and weather and the concurrence of F.O.C.N.A. you are to make the best arrangements to carry out an A/S sweep with destroyers and 9th M.L. Flotilla on passage to Gibraltar passing as near as practicable through position 36½° N. 13° W.
2. Any further information will be passed to you direct by Admiralty. (D.O.D. F. 1504B/10 to FIREDRAKE.)

Biscay S/M Patrol. A. My 1519B/9. TUNA after passing following positions is to patrol in Bay of Biscay south zone south of dividing line joining 44° 19' N. 04° 20' W. and 46° 16' N. 01° 07' W.
B. SOKOL proceed submerged by day to patrol in Bay of Biscay south zone to the north of this dividing line and south of latitude 46° N.
C. Submarines should not approach within 10 miles of dividing line unless in pursuit of the enemy. (F.O.S. 1307B/10.)

East Coast Patrols. Departure M.G.B's 63, 59, 65. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2203B/10.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. STAND in Operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0013/10.) My 2036/9. A/C not taking off owing to weather, also A/C in S/M search west of Shetlands being withdrawn. (C. in C. Rosyth 1328/10.)

Own Air Attack on TUNA. TUNA reports being heavily bombed by aircraft at 1030B/9. TUNA position at 2210B/9 49° 16' N. 008° 58' W. course .263 degs. proceeding to patrol through 46° N. 11° W. for Bay of Biscay South Zone. No damage reported. (F.O.S. 0257B/10 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 1921/9. It appears probable that S/M attacked by A/C was friendly. Having recovered crew of SUNDERLAND return direct to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 0303/10 to BROCKLESBY.)
My 2210B/9. Add was then after word position. Your 1519B/9 acted on at 1400B/9. Weather report 6472 0863. (TUNA 2145B/10 to F.O.S.)

804 Sqdn. Your 1729/4 approved subject to concurrence of V.A.N.A.S. (C. in C.W.A. 1119B/10 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

/ROYAL .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Air co-operation will be provided 11/7 as follows. (C. in C.W.A. 1830B/10 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy SAPPER. Help SAPPER Trevose Head. (Unknown via Plymouth W/T 0025/10.)

Convoy WHEEL. Being shadowed by one A/C course 270 distance 5 miles position 51° 3' N. 4° 40' W. (CLEVELAND 0145/10)
2 A/C bearing 012° distant 2 miles from convoy WHEEL in 51° 11' N. 4° 28' W. (CLEVELAND 0252/10) My 0252. No bombs. A/C driven off. (CLEVELAND 0304/10.)

TARTAN (A/P Trawler) hits. A/C on 6/7. Following received begins from F.O. Humber. At 0230/6 TARTAN whilst at Humber L/V was attacked by enemy bomber of unidentified type with machine gun fire from height of 100 ft. TARTAN obtained direct hit with 6 pdr. gun causing a large volume of sparks and smoke. Other hits obtained by M.G. fire. This is confirmed by examination vessel BELTON. At 0446 JASCH witnessed Twin tailed A/C crash in Flames 6 miles East 6 A. Buoy 80 miles from Humber L/V. No.12 Group cannot account for this and it is possible that two events are connected. 2255B/9. Ends. (C. in C. Nore 0715B/10.)

Convoy BROOM. 1 aircraft shadowed Convoy BROOM 56° N. 14° 32' W. No attack was made on convoy. (DOUGLAS 0725B/10, 0730B/10, 0802B/10.)

Convoy E.C. 43. Is being shadowed by 1 enemy A/C in 55° 26' N. 1° 24' W. (WHADDON 1736B/10.)

Scapa. JU. 88 identified by defences crossed Flow at 25000 feet from S.W. to N.E. at 1941 today. Cloud 5 tenths. (A.C.O.S. 2008/10.)

Mining.

CELANO (Motor Boat) sunk. Following received from TEDWORTH begins. Motor boat CELANO loaned to TEDWORTH by Liverpool and Glasgow Salvage Association was blown up by enemy ground mine about one cable 100° from No.1 Channel Buoy whilst proceeding to wreck at about 0845/10 to assist Moor Ship. Following 3 Naval ratings and 3 civiliana crew were in boat and are presumed killed, no trace being found after search. Names. 0940/10. Ends. (F.O.I.C.Greenock 1015/10.)

/Thames .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Thames Estuary. 2 Magnetic Mines detonated by M.M.S. at 1443/8 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1045/10)

BLUE MERMAID. (Barge) sunk. Following from Brightlingsea:- Barges MAYFLOWER and BANKSIDE report that at 2040/9 barge BLUE MERMAID was blown up and lost with all hands about 1½ miles east of Whitaker Beacon. C.G. Clacton reported loud explosion with column of smoke 185° 8 miles from Clacton Pier at 2039. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1136B/10.)

Poole. Explosions. Further to my 1041B/8. Poole and neighbouring Coastguards report numerous very heavy explosions to the Eastward and Southeast between 1030 and 1130 today that cannot be accounted for. These explosions are similar to others reported to us earlier today between 0130 and 0300. Request any information to explain same. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1214B/10.)

S.N.70 A. R.A.(M) 2247/7. Concur in position proposed. Exceedingly unlikely that escort will be available on date proposed. (A.C.N.S. H. 1549B/10.)

M.M.S.3 damaged. M.M.S.3 mined and damaged 0938/10 in position 148°. Bar L.V.2 7 miles. S.A. gear had failed and ship was proceeding back to base with M.K.5 sweep streamed and pulsing. Speed 7 knots 240 revolutions. Ship now docked. 2 casualties, not serious. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1603B/10.)

Hartlepool. One red mine detonated by single L. drifter in 54° 41'16" N. 01° 10' 15" W. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1755/10.)

Milford Haven. At 0657B/10. One Red Mine detonated by Sweeper. Details. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1755B/10.)

S.N.67 A. Arrival R.A.(M) in AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, CASTLETON, WELLS. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 1724B/10.)

River Crouch. Heavy explosion presumed acoustic mine at 1655 in River Crouch (position) Destroyed privately owned Motor Launch. Two civilian passengers killed. (N.R.O. Burnham 1900/10.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Main Units. Positions. ADMIRAL SCHEER at 1610/10 proceeding S.W. at slow speed and unescorted in Kiel Bay. (N.A. Stockholm 0010B/10) Stockholm 1051/10. (P.R.U. Benson 2040/10)

Casualties and Defects.

RUBIS. My 1030B/8. The sailing of RUBIS is postponed by defects until about 30/7. (F.O.S.1102B/10.)

JOHN EVELYN damaged. JOHN EVELYN in collision with M.V. BEN HENSHAW at Inverness. Damage apparently not extensive. (Supt. R.V.Y. Deptford 1554/10.)

Shipping and Convoys.

D.S.S. D.S.S will embark at Greenock on 21/7. Total numbers to embark approx. 2273. Ships to be used will probably be ROYAL SOVEREIGN, ROYAL ULSTERMAN and ULSTER MONARCH. (D.S.T. 0536B/10 to P.S.T.O. West of Scotland.)

W.S.9.C. MANXMAN. AURORA will not now sail in convoy W.S.9 (C). AURORA's place will be taken by MANXMAN. Requested you will sail MANXMAN for Clyde as soon as possible. (V.C.N.S. 1227B/10 to C. in C.H.F.)

End-to-End Escort. To start as soon as forces available. Instructions (A.C.N.S.(T) 1550B/10 to C. in C.W.A. C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A.) See Lion Copy.

H.G. 66. Has arrived complete, 16 ships, including 2 allied, 2 neutral. Commodore Rear-Adm. Dawson. Cargoes. (D.S.674 10/7.)

Milford - Holyhead Convoys. C. in C.W.A. 1153B/9. Request permanent allotment of TOPAZ as codeword for M.H.(Milford - Holyhead) Convoys. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1610/10 to Admty.)

/Distress.

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Distress Messages.

In future, should it be necessary for a merchant ship actually in convoy to transmit a distress message, she is to use Convoy W/T Call Sign (See Mersigs. Art. 84 (e) or Consigs. Art 9 (b)) and not her name. (D.T.D. 1829B/10 Admty. "A" Message.)

W.S. 10. C.T.1.

My 1221B/27/6. W.S. 10 will leave U.K. (date) C.T.1 has been postponed (date). (A.C.N.S.(H) 1919B/10 to C. in C's etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Convoy. Gibraltar 1800 French EMERETHIE II, STRASBOURGEOIS ST. DENIS, ST.ADOLPH (signal letters F.P.K.M. and F.P.K.J. believed applicable) escort light cruiser EPERVIER. (S.O.I. Gib. 00575/10.)

EDINBURGH. C.S. 18's 1832A/9. Approved to dock EDINBURGH provided F.O.C.N.A. and S.O. Force H. concur. (D.O.D.(F) 1014B/10 to F.O.C.N.A. C.S.18.) EDINBURGH docked p.m./11 probably undocking 15/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 1932B/10 to Admty.)

German Iron Ore Traffic. Germans are shipping iron ore from Bilbao to Bayonne in small French ships which take 400 to 500 tons making round trip in 48 hours. Ships at present engaged in this are VIRGO FIDELIS, PRESIDENT LAVIT, COURDANNES and JEUNE DENISE. Sources Consul from shipping agents. (A.1.) (N.A. Madrid 1025/10 to D.N.I.)

Destroyers. Your 1933/8. (Hush N.T. in W.D.) FORTUNE 2 remainder of 8th D.F. less FIREDRAKE one total 8. (S.O. Force H . 1114B/10 to Admty.)

KERSTEN MILES. (German) My 1615/9. Informed on reliable authority that opening through plate has been cut on each side of ship and hose connections said to have been placed on board. (Consul, Las Palmas 1200/10)

L'EMERAUDE. (French) For Gen. de Gaulle from Poirel. Arrived here 8/7 6 fishermen part of crew of L'EMERAUDE, left Douarenez on 5/4/41 was boarded by British auxiliary MARSDALE off Azores on 25/6/41. Men say remainder of crew, five men including skipp were ordered with their ship to Bermudas. All anxious about reprisals against their families as German authorities warned them to be back before 4/8. Also about loss of their share of catch. Will take steps to have families and occupation authorities informed through French N.A. Madrid if your H.Q. agree. Also suggest you should contact Admiralty London for compensation of loss of catch, nets and ship, if ship detained. (Govr. Gib., 1344/10 to W.O.)

/Imports .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Imports for Tangier. For consideration that iron ore ships proceeding to Melilla or other Mediterranean ports to be employed to take British cargoes to Tangier. (F.O.C.N.A. 1558B/10 to Admty.) Reply:2119/12.

AFRICAN REEFER. (Danish) Possibility of sailing for a U.S. port under U.S. flag in near future. She has not confidential books in her signal publications. Are any steps to be taken should this situation arise ? (N.C.S.O. Funchal, 1619/10 to Admty.)

Minesweepers. Your 2135N/8. Fully concur. Requirement cannot however be met until September. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2011B/10 to C. in C.S.A.)

A/S Sweep. Admty. 1304B/10 (A/S Sweep with Destroyers and 9 M.L. Flotilla on passage to Gibraltar to be carried out) Concur. (F.O.C.N.A.2554B/10 to FIREDRAKE.)

South Atlantic.

Force Z. St. Helena departure 0600/10. EAGLE, DUNEDIN, ALCANTARA on operations. (General St. Helena, 1002/10 to Admty. etc.)

Reported A/C attack on Freetown. Commander Sierra Leone Area's 1545/8 addressed to W.O. reports Glen Martin attacked ships in harbour with M.G. and cannon shells a.m./C. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1151B/10 to C. in C.S.A. Reply: 1345N/11.

"R" Report DALEBY. Following has been read. RRRR 4.24 N. 2.58 W. DALEBY, suspicious. (Simonstown 1236/10 to Admty.)
DALEBY has reported sighting a suspicious ship at 1256 G.M.T./10. Position received corruptly in Admiralty. Signal latest information of her movements. (D.D.I.C. 0006B/11 to C. in C.S.A.) Your 0006/11. Position as received by Takoradi was 04.24 N. 02 58 W. DALEBY last reported Takoradi but probably sailed thence 8th or 9/7. Ascension intercept at 1509Z begins: Cancel my 0006 at 1207. (C. in C.S.A. 2301N/10 to Admty.)

/Troop .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Troop Movements. Your 2339N/7 and 1431N/2. 1552B/10 to C. in C.S.A.) Reply. (4th S.L. See Lion Copy.

Spanish Ships. Spanish tug SALAMANA towing 2 lighters left Bissau Portuguese Guinea by South Channel for Monrovia Asuncion 1400/9. Ultimate destination Fernando Po, if met should be boarded. (C. in C.S.A. 1915N/10 to CLEMATIS, MILFORD, WOODRUFF, MIGNONETTE.)

CANTON. You may move into I.33 as desired. (C. in C.S.A. 1935N/10 to CANTON.)

CITY OF DURBAN. CAPE SABLE. Request you will sail to U.K. as soon as convenient. Destination Clyde. (V.C.N.S. 2234B/10 to C. in C.S.A.)

HERMES. (German) intercepted, scuttled. In 004° 03' N. 034° 40' W. after two hours chase, identified HERMES shortly after sunset and after usual signals opened fire with 6-inch and Lewis guns on boats. Ship unfortunately very fully prepared, number of presumed scuttling charges heard to go off as fire was opened, and superstructure burst into flames. Have picked up three boatloads of survivors - (details) including 4 passengers. Unable to board on account of ferocity of fire and danger of explosion. Ship is still burning fiercely and will sink shortly. Am standing by until she does so. (CANTON, 2256Z/10 to C. in C.S.A.) Position about 300 miles N.W. of St. Paul's Rocks. (D.O.R.11/7.)

ERLANGEN. (German) N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires reports transhipment of cargo from Argentine ship MADRYN to ERLANGEN in Mar del plate is somewhat delayed and expected to be finished 12/7. Ungraded report that ERLANGEN will load still more cargo from shore next week. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2312Z/10.)

Mediterranean.

Naples raided. 9 Wellingtons 148 Sqn. attacked Naples Railway Station night 9/10. All aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. Malta, 0740/10 1601/10.)

S/M attacked. One S/M unknown, P.C. and S. 35.55 N. 33° 42' E. 280 Q.T. 0905. (Med A/C., G. 0905/10, 1136/10 to H.Q. Group M.E.)
My 0905 S/M submerged without identifying itself attacked with 2 bombs no hits. (Med A/C, G. 1058/10 to H.Q. Group M.E.)

/Enemy .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Units.	One merchant vessel 8 T. (? trawlers) 10 290 36.36 N., 23.54 E. (Med A/C R. 0949/10 to Med. A/C C.S J.) My 0949 O.E.C.S. 290 10 tonnage 2,000. (Med A/C R. 1010/10 to Med. A/C (C.S.J))
M.V.	P.C. and S. of enemy M.V. (?2 4° or 240°) 7 Ospesto. (Med. A/C C. 1015/10 to Call sign O.I.H.) My 1015 M.V. 3000 B.R.O.S.N. course 3340 10 knots. (Med A/C C. 1045/10 to Call Sign O.I.H.)
Suez Canal Raid.	Operational Summary No.395 up to 1200 hours 10/7/41. Night 9/10. About 15 enemy A/C dropped bombs and mines in Suez Canal Zone at Suez and Shallufa 0100C to 0410C/10. Canal closed for suspected U.X. mine. Second formation enemy A/C bombed Abu Sueir starting fire. Damage believed considerable. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 0719C/10 H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1104/10.) My 0719C/10. About 25 aircraft attacked Abu Sueir aerodrome with H.E. and Shallufa area canal with mines and anti personnel bombs. 4 U.X. mines in canal at km.139.5, 114.5, 145.5, 146.5. Rest of canal opened to traffic. No Naval damage or casualties. Up to 22 aircraft destroyed on ground and some R.A.F. casualties. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1315C/10 to Admty. etc.)
Alexandria minesweeping.	L.L. and S/A sweepers will leave entrance to channel C. at 1900 and will sweep channel C.B. and A. at 8 knots. They must not be overtaken. (R.A. Alexandria, 1105C/10 to VALIANT, LEANDER etc.)
Spanish ship reported mined.	Spanish S.S. JESUS ANTONIO reported sunk by mine outside Genoa, 17 lost, 3 saved. (B.2) (N.A. Madrid 1207/10 to Admty.)
TRIUMPH.	Return to Malta now. (V.A. Malta, 1258B/10 to TRIUMPH.)
Vichy Ships, Syria.	C. in C. Med's 2215/9. These and similar French vessels escaping from Syria to Turkish ports are not to be attacked within Turkish territorial waters. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1502B/10 to C. in C. Med. C.S. 15, C.S.7 N.O.I.C. Haifa.)

/HERO .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

HERO.	As soon as you can spare HERO from your screen, send her into harbour with all despatch to disembark remaining torpedoes from after mounting and load military stores for Tobruk sailing 0700/11. (R.A.D. Med. 1357/10 to VALIANT.)
MANXMAN. VICTORIA etc. for Army Supplies.	Your 1832/6. Ships will be excellent troop carriers and most acceptable, but a requirement for fast cargo carriers of 1500 - 2000 tons still remains. (C. in C. Med. 14230/10 to Admty.)
No Malta Raid.	C.S.R. Malta up to 1600 hrs. 10/7. Enemy air activity. Day 9/7 and night 9/10, nil. Offensive. Day 9/7. 7 Blenheims attacked shipping Tripoli Harbour evening 9/7. 4 missing. 2 alighted sea near Tripoli due enemy fighters. 1 shot down in flames over harbour by A.A. crashed on Torpedo boat setting it on fire. Results, 2 hits 500 lb bombs on 10,000 ton M/V. 1 hit 500 lb. bomb on second 10,000 ton M/V. Both ships alongside Mole. 1 hit 500 lb. bomb warehouse in Mole. 1 hit 250 lb. bomb 12,000 ton M/V against another Mole also other hits on Mole. Ship still on fire when photographed 40 minutes later. 2 hits on 7000 ton M/V in stream, photographs show life boats and debris in the air. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1601/10.)
Russian S/Ms.	Suggested employment (1st S.L. to N.A. Moscow, 16078/10) See Mediterranean Volume.
Submarines.	Movement Summary No.318. (Capt S.1. 16150/10) See Lion Copy.
Benghazi bombed.	Prelim. Op. Summary No.24. Night 9/10. 14 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi. Night 9/10. Western Desert. 20 aircraft carried out night bombing on Benghazi and back areas. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1655/10.)
SEVERN. CLYDE.	Your 18060/6. Decision in para. 1 was taken on recommendations in Capt. (s) S's No.4536/23, a copy of which he has been directed to send you. 2. Their employment with H.G. and O.G. Convoys where their speed may be a great advantage should enable two Dutch submarines to be available for duties in Western Basin. 3. It is noticed that Dutch S/Ms have also achieved success on their patrols. (A.C.N.S.(F) 19048/10 to C. in C. Med.)

/UNBEATEN .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

UNBEATEN. URSULA. My S.H.M. 1324/7 postpone movement to area X. Ref. B.S. Appendix 1 para. 4, establish patrol line as follows:- (5) 035° 40' 011° 55' - 090° - 12 - 000 - 24 position (A) 035° 40' 011° 55'. UNBEATEN, position (B) 10 miles P.33, position (C) URSULA. Latter two leave Malta p.m./11. Submarines are not to be attacked after 2000B/12 until further orders. Information received that southbound convoy of 6 medium sized merchant -ships escorted by 6 destroyers will be in latitude of Lampion 2100/12. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1957B/10 to UNBEATEN.)

PARTHIAN. You are not to pass position 293° Great Pass Beacon 7 miles until 1130C. Minesweeping operations will be in progress and mine sweepers will commence sweep back to Alexandria from approx. above position at about 1130. You are to follow the Minesweepers back to harbour. (Capt. S.1. 1959C/10 to PARTHIAN.)

NIZAM. HAVOCK. HOTSPUR. NIZAM take HAVOCK and HOTSPUR under his orders and be off end of Swept Channel by 0700/11 in time to R/V with C.S. 7. as ordered by him. Raise steam and proceed accordingly. N.O.I.C. requested to open gate at 0625/11. (C.S.15 2017C/10 to NIZAM, HAVOCK. HOTSPUR.)

Syria. Situation report. Spirit (?of) resistence on all fronts does not indicate any thought of armistice. (N.L.O. Palestine 2143C/10 to C.S. 15.)

Vichy Ships in Turkey. Following from N.A. Ankara. My 0844/9. Following additional Vichy French Ships have arrived Iskanderun: 1 old boat, 1 armed tug, 4 armed trawlers. Turkish Authorities state (?French) support disarmament and internment. Should any refuse such ship will be ordered to sail 24 hours after arrival. N.O.S.O. Iskanderun watching developments carefully and also at Mersin 1003/10. (Ends.) (C. in C. Med. 2046C/10 to C.S. 15.)

/Situation .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation Report 82. Syria. Reported all shipping has evacuated Beirut Harbour ships being scattered in harbours to northward. One ship probably tanker left in Beirut on fire. W/T link being established between Beirut and Haifa.
2. Naval Bombardment was not required by Army today 10th. AJAX, PERTH and destroyers operated night of 9/10 without incident.
5. Canal closed. Abu Sueir aerodrome attacked see S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1515/10. (C. in C. Med. 2340C/10 to Admty.)

East Indies.

CANBERRA. Cancel my 1024/3. Proceed now to Colombo to fuel arriving port of arrival 0830Z/12. (C. in C.E.I. 0436Z/10 to CANBERRA.)

W.S.S.B. D. of S.T's 0120B/3/7. Following anticipated sailing dates ex Suez of returning vessels of W.S.S B. and particulars of personnel embarking. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1017/10 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

ELSA ESS-BERGER. (German) Yokohama arrival 9/7. 171. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0449Z/10.)

French ships. 10/7 arrival GOVUERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER departure LE CONTE DE LISLE Manila. (Saigon, T.O.O.0717Z/10 to D. of S.T.)

Oil for Indo-China. Your 0907/9. You should if possible cancel agreement to permit loading pending receipt of further instructions from Admiralty. (Head of M. 2134B/10 to C. in C. China.)

America and West Indies.

Japanese Shipping. Following from C.S.A. San F'cisco. Jap. ships instructed not proceed through Panama Canal to U.S. East Coast by Japanese Government. A Washington report marked 'Very Secret' states that all Japanese ships are to be clear East Pacific 22/7. (ends) (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0017Z/10 to Capt. O.S. Singapore amended 1724Z/12)

/Auxiliary .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Auxiliary Aircraft Carriers. Following from British Admiralty supply representative: Your 0027B/5. U.S. Authorities state that in meantime they are unable to supply more than 6 ships for conversion to auxiliary aircraft carriers. (dates) Quite uncertain when they will be able to let us have another 6. (B.A.D. Washington 1145R/10 to Admty.)

H.X.138 and S.C.57. Following is intended escort programme. (C.C.N.F. 1321Z/10 to C. in C.W.A.)

ANNA BULGARIS. FYLERDALE. Your 2354B/9, no news of ANNA BULGARIS or FYLERDALE. (N.C.S.O. Montreal, 1341Z/10 to Admty.)

T.C. 12. My 1745B/9. If T.C. 12 is routed S. of Newfoundland it will be necessary for destroyer escort to fuel at St. Johns, N.F. en route. Suggest Convoy be sailed without destroyers through Cabot Straits and Belle Isle Strait, destroyer escort from St. Johns, N.F. joining at Belle Isle. (A.C.N.S.(R) 1430B/10 to R.A.S B.S.)

ORION. Can ORION be accepted for permanent action damage repairs? (D. of D. 1545B/10 to B.A.R.M.)

C. in C. My 11540/4. I have returned to Bermuda. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1744Q/10 to Admty.)

T.C. 12 Escort. WALNEY TOTLAND NORTHERN FOAM now escorting O.B.344 should arrive Halifax about 17/7. They are available to escort H.X. Convoy which should enable you to provide 6 destroyers for T.C.12. (C. in C.W.A. 2304B/10 to C.C.N.F.)

VAN KINSBERGEN. Your 0941Q/6. VAN KINSBERGEN should sail independently. (D.O.D.(F) 2525B/10 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Australia.

U.S.11A. AUSTRALIA escorting U.S.11 A. left Fremantle 0330Z/9 for Trincomalee. (A.C.N.B.0226Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

10.7.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

On completion H.A. firing proceed to join KRAKOWIAK, ECHO searching for U-Boat in 060° 36' N. 003° 20' W.
When met relieve KRAKOWIAK.
(R.A.D.H.F., 1125B/10 to WINCHESTER.)
Unless further information is received and if not in contact discontinue search to arrive Scapa 0800B/11.
(R.A.D.H.F., 2240B/10 to ECHO, WINCHESTER.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (22 German, 5 Italian.)
(D.D.I.C. 1429B/10.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C 1058/10. See Mediterranean.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

ARBUTUS was damaged in collision with S.S. BLACKHEATH at 1215 today in 55° 58' N. 10° 38' W. and is proceeding to Liverpool.

O.S. Convoys.	Southbound O.B. convoys will in future be known as O.S. convoys.
H.G, O.G. Convoys.	Anti U-boat operations will be carried out by the S/M's escorting H.G. and O.G. convoys.

British Air Operations.

It is reported that a Hudson of Coastal Command attacked a 1200 ton minesweeper off Ushant today, and left it in a sinking condition. Three Stirlings of Bomber Command, with fighter escort attacked the large shipyard at Le Trait this morning.

Enemy Air Operations.

The Air Ministry report that in general the number of aircraft employed in attacking shipping has increased in May and June compared with the number employed in February and March. The tonnage sunk by the German Air Force has, however, decreased progressively since February; in May and June it is estimated that the losses were less than half those for February and March.

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations-Contd.

Convoy E.C. 43 called for help at 1715 in Pentland Firth. No details are known.

East Coast.

Convoy E.C. 42 was bombed at 0035 today off Scurdyness. No damage was caused. MELROSE ABBEY was unsuccessfully attacked at 0205 off Aberdeen.

Convoy F.S. 37 was bombed at 0317 off Outer Dousing L.V. No damage is reported. Very slight Naval damage was caused during a sharp attack on Hull last night.

M.V. RIVER TRENT was damaged in 53° 0' N. 1° 15'E. and is being towed to Yarmouth. Damage was caused last night to the M/S base at Yarmouth. H.S.L. 116 was damaged.

Mining.

Blyth was closed at 0257B on account of suspected minelaying by aircraft.

Mines were detonated off the Humber, Harwich and in the Thames Estuary.

Restrictions on navigation between Tilbury Dock and No. 4 buoy were withdrawn at 1538.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Submarines. As raider activity appears to have decreased, F.O.C.N.A. suggests a S/M should accompany convoys only occasionally, thus releasing S/M's to continue offensive against Italian shipping.

LEOPOLD L.D. LONDON intercepted the Vichy French LEOPOLD L.D. this afternoon in 34.20 N., 09.17 W., and was instructed to bring her to Gibraltar.

South Atlantic.

Air Raid, Freetown. C. in C. S.A. reports no evidence that merchant ships were machine gunned during a raid by Glen Martin A/C on Freetown on 6/7. Some damage was caused by fire from ships or shore.

MOOLTAN "Q" Report MOOLTAN made a "Q" distress signal at 1345 G.M.T. today in 35.42 S., 20.20 E., but cancelled it at 1438. N.O.I.C. Simonstown considers cancellation genuine.

Mediterranean.

Cruisers. C. in C. Med. asks if LEANDER is to leave Mediterranean after NEPTUNE arrives. He would like to retain her until after Operation "Substance".

Submarines. C. in C. Med. favours more submarine attacks on Italian coastal traffic, especially from Savona, Albenga and Imperia and small Sardinian ports. Misurata, reported to be developed into an important stores dump, also merits attention.

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

Enemy S/M and tanker sunk.

TORBAY reports having sunk a westbound U-boat off Mykoni and a tanker in Zea Channel. (c.f. Situation Report 2/7).

TRIUMPH damaged.

It is reported that TRIUMPH was damaged by fire from shore batteries whilst attacking shipping in Rastayones anchorage on the night of 5/6 July. (See 13/7).

Naples bombed.

8 Wellingtons attacked the Central Railway Station and marshalling yards at Naples last night.

Malta bombed.

Malta was bombed last night. Damage was confined to Luqa aerodrome.

Libya and Western Desert.

DEFENDER and VENDETTA were bombed in 31° 45' N. 25° 31' E. this morning whilst returning from Tobruk. DEFENDER was badly damaged and was taken in tow by VENDETTA but sank at 1115 off Sidi Barrani.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.

A U/Boat was attacked by A/C in 33.36 N., 31.03 E., results not observed.

Syria, French S/M's.

2 French S/M's were attacked today by Aircraft S. and S.W. of Crete.

French Ships in Turkey.

More small French war vessels have arrived at Alexandretta and will be interned. Larger units are returning to France.

At 1650, A/C reported 2 cruisers, 1 destroyer and 3 merchant vessels in 38.23 N., 15.28 E. steering westward.

Armistice.

Forces in Syria were instructed this evening to stand fast from midnight tonight, a meeting having been arranged for 1100 tomorrow.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

French Somaliland is to be treated as enemy territory for economic warfare purposes.

America and West Indies.

There are indications that fishing craft off the Newfoundland Banks, wearing French, Portuguese and possibly other colours are acting in a suspicious manner. The Admiralty have asked C. in C. A.W.I. to operate against them at the earliest opportunity.

Mexican Ships.

Transfers of enemy vessels to Mexican flag are not recognised, but discussions are proceeding with U.S.A. for a general settlement with all American States, and meanwhile enemy vessels sailing under Mexican flag are not to be interfered with.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

U.S.S. WESTPOINT. — Bringing back U.S. Consular personnel from German and Italian held territories. Re voyages. Not to be molested etc. (American Embassy, London 1215/11 to Adty.) See Lion Copy.

Western Patrol. — Proposed arrangements for operating. (C. in C.W.A. 1226B/11 to Adty.) (M. 07482/41) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

MANXMAN. — A.T's 1227B/10 and 1946B/8. Arrangements have been made to supply 6 Oerlikons for MANXMAN, vide A.M. 1339B/10.
2. Departure of MANXMAN may be delayed if necessary to complete mounting of Oerlikons but she should be sailed in time to R/V with Convoy W.S.9C in position D. at latest. MANXMAN may be sailed without escort, and speed should consequently be as high as endurance and weather conditions allow until convoy is met.
3. Report intended arrangements in due course.
(V.C.N.S. 1230B/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

DEVONSHIRE. — Intended following movements of C.S.I. in DEVONSHIRE.
(i) Leave Reykjavik 0830/12 for Akureyri, visiting Isafiord on passage.
(ii) Arriving Akureyri 0900/13. Leave 1900/13.
(iii) E.T.A. Scapa 0930/15.
(iv) All times B. (C.S.I. 2107B/11).

Operations.

SEAL. — Account of capture reconstructed from statements of escaped Prisoners in Moscow. (Head of Naval Mission, Moscow. Recd. 0115/11 at Adty.).
(Signal returned to War Registry as requested.)

M.G.B. Operation. — Nothing to report. (C. in C. Nore 1640B/11).

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

R/C of Kiel. In view of movement of SCHEER request R/C of Kiel whenever possible until further notice. (D.D.I.C. 1152B/11 to H.Q.C.C).

Attack on Le Havre and Cherbourg. An operation was carried out 10/7 with the object of destroying enemy ships at anchor or alongside in the ports of Cherbourg and Le Havre. Fighter Escort was provided. Whilst Fighter Command were carrying out an offensive action in the Pas de Calais area simultaneous attack was launched on Cherbourg and Le Havre by a formation of 12 bombers on each. Surprise was achieved at both ports. 6 ships aggregating 34,000 tons are claimed as total losses.
The following are the details:-
Le Havre
One 7,000 ton liner: two direct hits
One 6,000 M.V: one direct hit
One 3,000 M.V: one or more direct hits and enveloped in black smoke.
One 2,000 ton Tanker: Two direct hits amidships.
One 3,000 ton M.V.
One 1,500 ton M.V: probably hits and close misses.
Cherbourg
One 10,000 ton Tanker two or more direct hits causing explosions and black smoke.
One 6,000 ton M.V. direct hits resulting in explosions and debris being thrown into the air.
Another Tanker was also attacked, results unobserved -and bombs were also seen to explode in Warehouses on the dock side. Fighter escort destroyed two M.E. 109's for the loss of two of our Fighters -The docks at Ostend, Dunkirk and Boulogne were attacked.
The Docks at Calais and Ostend each attacked by 1 aircraft. (H.Q.B.C. 1300/11).

804 Squadron. C. in C. 1119B/10. Concur. (V.A.N.A.S. 1820B/11).

118 Squadron. Adty. 2005B/9/7. It is not expected that 818 Squadron will be available until August. (V.A.N.A.S. 1823B/11).

/Practice.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations-Contd.

Practice bombs. In order to assist the training of aircraft in attacking submarines it has been suggested that the dropping of practice bombs should be permitted, provided that the submarine is completely submerged -at the time of release. I agree. (F.O.S. 2319B/11 to Adty.).

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C. 43. Fighters are being sent to assist. (Rosyth W/T 0010/11).
Enemy aircraft are bombing convoy. Scurdyness - 11 - 019 - 7. (Convoy Guard 0035/11).
Help MIGHT 1 Pentland Firth. (JAN VAN BRAKEL 1715/11).

Convoy F.S. odd. Enemy A/C bombing 165 Outer Dowsing L.V. 25. (WESTMINSTER 0317/11).
My 0317. 3 bombs no hits. (WESTMINSTER 0348/11).

Yarmouth. Air attack night 10/11 July.
Damage Miranda Base Buildings. No casualties.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1035B/11).

MELROSE ABBEY. Attacked 0205/11/7 one bomb. No damage.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1341/11).

Hull. During sharp attack on Hull night 10/11 July new naval offices and garage suffered damage. No other naval damage and no damage to docks or shipyards. Casualties. (F.O. Humber 2155/11).

H.S.L. 116 (At Yarmouth). H.S.L. 116 previously reported out of action, has since suffered damage by bomb blast during night 10/11 July. (C. in C. Nore 2220B/11).

RIVER TRENT. M.V. With engine damaged, by enemy bombing attack in 53° 00' N. 01° 15' E. is being towed by A/T SOLON to Yarmouth Roads. E.T.A. 0100/12. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2304B/11).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Blyth. Port closed owing to suspected aircraft minelaying. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 0257B/11).

Thames Estuary. S.A. Mines detonated as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1513/11).

Tilbury Dock to No. 4 Buoy. Re. my 1244/27. Navigation may be resumed in this area. (F.O.I.C. London 1538/11).

Harwich. 2 Magnetic Mines detonated by L.L. Trawlers in approx. 51° 45.5' N. 1° 15.5' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1657B/11).

Humber. The Following 2 Mines were detonated today. (F.O. Humber 1910B/11).

Enemy Intelligence.

M.V. P.P. 1 M/V course 080° speed 10 knots position 47° 10' N. 7° 10' W. (A/C P. 0300/11 to 19 Group H.Q.).

Baltic shipping. (a) In addition to three German transports reported sunk off Oland in yesterday's press further German vessel has been sunk to southward of Ystad. Details of all sinkings expected shortly.
(b) Lulea ore traffic now restricted to vessels not exceeding 22 foot draft since Flintrennen passage must be used in conjunction with Great Belt en route for Kiel Canal.
(c) German vessels from North Sea ports bound for German Baltic ports are still awaiting orders at West Swedish ports. There is still no traffic across southern Baltic and Trelleborg Sassnitz ferry remains suspended. Graded A.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1551/11).

EMDEN. Pru 1310/11 shows EMDEN arrived in Flensburg since 22/6. (PRU Benson 1555/11).

TIRPITZ. Following received from Opnav. State Department just received information from Copenhagen that TIRPITZ passed Danish islands about two days ago. Informant states assumes probable intent attack Iceland. Reliability of report not known. (Spenavo 2330/11 to Adty.).

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

ARBUTUS. — In collision 1215/11 with S.S. BLACKHEATH in 055° 58' N. 010° 38' W. Former holed almost to waterline can steam at moderate speed PIMPERNEL standing by and proceeding Londonderry BLACKHEATH bound for Oban not seriously damaged. (VERITY 1258B/11, ARBUTUS 1500B/11, 2045B/11). Proceed to Liverpool if possible. (C. in C. W.A. 2226B/11 to ARBUTUS).

PRINCE OF WALES. — C. in C. H.F. 1410B/10 and my 1009B/9. Propose a.m./18 unbasin complete with oil p.m./19 D.G. Range. Pom pom gun trials. Sail for base on completion. (PRINCE OF WALES 1546/11).

VALOROUS. — Your 2253B/9. Area swept to at least depth of 10 fathoms - no obstruction found. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1720B/11 to C. in C. Nore).

FURIOUS. — It is of the first importance that FURIOUS should be ready for sea by 19/7. Arrangements. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1811B/11 to FURIOUS).

Shipping and Convoys.

Anti U/B Trial, H.G., O.G. — My 1836B/21. Anti U-boat operations will be carried out by the submarines escorting H.G. and O.G. convoys. Exact procedure will be confirmed from submarines on meeting. Escorts concerned are to be informed. (C. in C. W.A. 1018B/11 to Capts. D.11, D.12 etc.)

W.S.9C. — Cancel my 1528B/9. Proceed to Swansea to arrive not later than 2200B/11 to act as escort for DURHAM and DEUCALION, and R/V with JACOB VAN HEEMSKERK and PORT CHALMERS off Scarweather L.V. at 0315B/12. R/V with Liverpool portion W.S.9 (C) at 1900B/12 in 053° 44' N. 004° 49' W. Leave convoy off Oversay and return to Belfast. (C. in C. W.A. 1207B/11 to STORK). All merchant ships of Convoy W.S.9C carry 3 Marconi Operators and so can maintain continuous W/T Watch. (D.O.D.(F) 2110B/11 to NELSON).

/O.G.68.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

O.G. 68. Ships bound for West African ports or for the West Indies, Panama Canal and Gulf of Mexico are not to be sailed in O.G. 68. (D.T.D. 1351B/11 to N.C.S.O's).

Balloons and Kites. My 1600/11/7. Request restrictions to be promulgated with regard to M.V.s flying balloons while entering or leaving Firth of Forth, may be the same as those detailed in my 1725/22/3. (C. in C. Rosyth 1841/11 to Adty.)

O.S. Convoys. My 1550B/10. Southbound O.B. Convoys will in future be known as O.S. convoys. (D.T.D. 2332B/11 to C. in C's W.A., S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Cargoes of Pyrites. Re export of iron pyrites from Huelva and A.M. 383 addressed to V.A.C.N.A., request if vessels passing Straits bound to Spanish Mediterranean ports with similar cargoes should be detained unless covered by a Navy certificate. (C.C.S.O. Gib., 1730/11 to Admiralty for Arfar) Reply 1801/12.

Submarines, Employment. Present composition and commitments of 8th S/M Flotilla will not allow for permanent patrol in Western Mediterranean. As raider activity appears to have decreased suggested a S/M should accompany convoys only occasionally thereby releasing S/Ms to continue offensive against Italian shipping. Ref. 2218B/22 from Admiralty and 1806C/6 from C. in C. Med. (F.O.C.N.A., 1742B/11 to Admty).

LEOPOLD L.D. (French) intercepted. Shadowing Vichy French LEOPOLD L.D. Bound Philadelphia. Position 034° 20' N 009° 17' W. Request instructions. (LONDON, 1956Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

GROUIN-DU-COU. French Trawler. Your 1810/5. When available is required in U.K. Please sail in convoy if crew can be arranged. (D.S.V.P. 2202B/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

VILLE DE TAMATAVE, exchanges. Vichy French M.V. is now at Freetown with 57 crew and 20 passengers including seven women. Not known yet how many crew will join Free French. Request if any more British or Allied merchant crews or passengers in French West African territory awaiting repatriation that might be obtained in exchange. (C. in C. S.A., 0437N/11, to Waggon Lagos.)

Yugoslav DUNAV. Your 1327/28. Union Authority requests how much longer ship must be detained. (S.O.(I), Capetown, 1053/11 to Admty for D. of S.T.

MILFORD. Leave today and proceed to Takoradi. Ascertain probable date of return of B.D.O. then proceed Freetown bringing B.D.O. if he is ready. (C. in C. S.A., 1241N/11 to MILFORD).

/HERMES.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

HERMES (German) intercepted 10/7.

My 2256/Z/10. When sighted in 3° 54' N 34° 23' W. ship was steering 360°. Ship sank at 2345Z/10 still flying Dutch Flag. Captain Bernhard Northling age 55. Passengers. (4 names). (CANTON, 1810Z/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

Reported A/C attack Freetown 6/7.

Your 1151B/10. Army are cancelling their signal to W.O. No evidence that merchant ships were hit by M.G. fire or cannon from A/C. Some damage was definitely from Bofors and all is considered to have been from ships or shore fire. (C. in C. S.A., 1345N/11 to Admty).

"Q" Report MOOLTAN.

Q Q Q Q. 35.42 S. 20.20 E., MOOLTAN suspicious T.O.R. 1345 G.M.T./11. (Slangkop W/T, 1411Z/11 to Whitehall W/T).
Cancel my 1345 G.M.T./11 MOOLTAN.
(Slangkop W/T, 1438G.M.T./11 to Freetown W/T).
Cancellation considered genuine.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1447Z/11 to H.M.Ships).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

A.M.2352/2.
Can be accepted for refit in U.S.A.Yard will be signalled later.
(D.O.D. (F) 1741B/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

D.7.

Tripoli (Syria) roadstead (?empty). Am joining you about 0300. (Capt. D.7. 0140/11 to C.S.7).

KIMBERLEY.

No merchant ships at Banias Knoll or 15 miles N. of The Would. Am returning to Haifa.
(KIMBERLEY, 0310C/11 to F.O.7 C.S.)

DEFENDER sunk.
VENDETTA attacked.

DEFENDER hit, engine room flooded. Am taking off personnel. Am taking her in tow. My position now is 31° 45' N., 25° 0' E. (VENDETTA, 0520/11 to C. in C. Med).
Am being attacked by enemy aircraft 31.45 N., 25.51 E. (VENDETTA, 0527/11, 0614/11).
Engine room and after boiler room flooded. Back probably broken but have every hope in saving ship. (DEFENDER, 0555/11 to C. in C. Med). Have DEFENDER in tow. Request maximum fighter protectio
My P.C. and S. are 31.45 N., 25.51 E., 115° 6 kts.
(VENDETTA, 0646/11 to C. in C. Med).
No sign of fighters yet.
(VENDETTA, 0713/11).

/DEFENDER.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

DEFENDER sunk. VENDETTA attacked. Contd.

DEFENDER heavily listed. Skeleton crew on board My position etc. 31.45 N., 25.51 E. 140° 6 knt. (VENDETTA, 0715/11).
VENDETTA and DEFENDER were attacked by aircraft at 0520/11 in 31° 45' N 25° 31' E. whilst returning from Tobruk. DEFENDER had engine room and boiler room flooded and was taken in tow by VENDETTA but sank at 1115 off Sidi Barrani. There were no serious casualties.
(C. in C. Med., 1443/11 to Admty).

TRIUMPH.

Whilst attacking shipping in Rastayones anchorage night of 5th TRIUMPH was damaged by fire from shore battery. (Capt. S.1. 09110/11 to TAKU).

Vichy S/M attacked. M.V. attacked.

Operational Summary No. 396 up to 1200 hrs. 11/7/41.
2. Cyprus. 10/7. 1 Blenheim on sea R/C between Cyprus and Syria attacked 1 French submarine 33° 53' N., 34° 23' E. No hits, submarine crashed dived. 2nd submarine flying French colours sighted 32° 43' N., 34° 13' E., but not attacked. Blenheim also attacked unidentified ship 2,000 tons off Syrian Coast. 1 bomb burst 10 yards from stern. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1046/11).

Petrol for Turkey.

Your 1636B/24. C. in C. Med., has directed that ships should not be sailed until further orders, but that scuttling charges should be fitted. A.N.A., Istanbul informed.
(N.A. Angora, 1217/11 to Admty).

LEANDER NEPTUNE.

Request I may be informed if it is intended LEANDER should leave Mediterranean after NEPTUNE arrives. I should like in any case to retain her until "SUBSTANCE" is (?over).
(C. in C. Med., 1229C/11 to Admty).

Vichy Ships Alexandretta.

Reported from Istanbul that more small French War Vessels have arrived at Alexandretta and will be interned. Larger French warships and submarines are returning to France.
(C.O.I.S., Alexandria, 1643C/11 to C.S. 15, C.S.7).

Mining of Suez Canal.

My 1315/10. Further sweep inside shows only two U.X.Ms in canal i.e. at km. 136.2 and 146.6 Four or five aircraft flying at about four thousand feet were believed to have been engaged in mine-laying.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area., 1317C/11).

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy S/M

NR 2-P My 1620 290 (090?) 15, one submerged S/M 33.56 N., 31.E E. (A/C "W" 1645/11, to Group H.Q. M.E.)
Attack enemy S/M in 34° 17' N., 31° 00' E. at 1620. (Group H.Q. M.E., 1647C/11 to A/C "N" Cyprus).
Attack enemy S/M which was in 34.02 N., 30.46 E. at 1620. (C.S J. 1715/11 to Duty N, Duty D, 6 C.F.)
My 1645 - position 33.52 N., 31.03 E.
(A/C "W" 1745/11 to Group H.Q. M.E.)
Position of submerged S/M is 33.56 N., 31.03 E., 1620. (Group H.Q., 1835/11 to F/B L.2166).

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S. of enemy 2 Cruisers 1 destroyer 3 M.V.s are 38.23 N., 15.28 E., 260° 10 knots. at 1650. (A/C "X" 1710B/11, to Hal Far).

Malta Raids.

CSR Malta to 1600 hours 11/7.
Night 10/11, 8 enemy aircraft few bombs on land, no damage or casualties. Day 11/7, 40 to 50 Macchi 200s over Island. 6 did low-flying attack Luqa, no casualties.

Naples Raid.

Part 3. Offensive. 8 Wellingtons attacked Naples Hits on Railway station and buildings. Large explosion airframe factory. Hits also on Warehouses and fuel tanks. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 0910/11 1800/11)

Enemy convoy.

4 destroyers 5 merchant ships 1 tanker 038° 55' 012° 40' course 200° speed 9 knots at 1530B/11 (Disposition) (Cdr. S.1. 1804B/11 to UNBEATEN).

Submarines Employment.

Intelligence shows much harm can be done by attacks on Italian coastal traffic. In particular, Savona Albenga and Imperia and small Sardinian ports seem readily accessible to such attacks. Request you consider possibility of attacks by submarines against coastal traffic. Misurata is now reported to be developed into an important stores dump and also merits attention. (C. in C. Med., 1857C/11 to V.A. Malta).

Aleppo and Benghazi bombed.

Night 10/11. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi.
Day 11/7. Western Desert. Submarine sighted 33° 36' N., 31° 03' E. Attacked, results unobserved. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1919/11).

/Syria.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Syria, Armistice.

For information. Our forces in Syria have been instructed to stand fast as from midnight tonight. A meeting has been arranged for 1100/12. (M.O.I.C. Haifa, 2145C/11 to C.S.15). (?We are) in negotiation with Gen. Dentz regarding Armistice. He has been informed that unless his envoys present themselves by 0600 G.M.T./12 on Beirut Haifa road, offensive action will be returned. You are to continue to act as though hostilities were continuing until further instructions except that you should not initiate offensive action against Syrian coast unless requested by Army. (C. in C. Med., 2201/11 to C.S. 15).

Vichy S/Ms

French submarines CAIMAN and (? MARSOUIN) were expected to pass Cape Sidero Kaso Strait 12/13 and Straits of Messina 14/15. 2 French U-boats were reported leaving Toulon 9/7 for Beirut. 1 French ship type unknown but apparently capable of 20 knots should pass Kithera 1300/13 and Cape Sidero 0700/14 for Beirut.
(Capt. S.1. 2249C/11 to TORBAY, OSIRIS etc).

TORBAY.

Returning via KASO E.T.A., 0500/15. Torpedoes and ammunition expended. Area report. Sank westbound U-boat off Mykonos.
Your 2011/9 Tanker sunk by torpedo in (?Zea Channel). (TORBAY, 2357C/11 to Capt. S.1.)

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

RANCHI. CARTHAGE.	RANCHI is to leave patrol to arrive Durban p.m./13 -CARTHAGE is to leave Durban a.m./13 and proceed to position X and then patrol on Line XYZ given in my 0632/14. (C. in C. E.I., 0520Z/11 to RANCHI, CARTHAGE).
EXETER.	To leave Mombasa a.m./13 and proceed Durban to arrive 18/7. (C. in C. E.I. 0524Z/11 to EXETER).
ILEX.	A.M. 1236/8. Can be taken at Calcutta. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0735Z/11).
MAREEBA.	Your 0450/5. R.O's confirm vessel has not put into any port on this coast. (N.O.I.C. Madras, 0923Z/11 to C. in C. E.I).
French Somaliland.	To be treated as enemy territory for economic warfare purposes. (?Ships) and dhows destined thither can be seized and dealt with in British prize courts.(C. in C. E.I. 0950Z/11 to E.I. Stn.)

China.

Oil for Indo-China.	My 0907Z/9. Standard Oil Co. have learnt today from Palembang that PAN GOTHIA is loading for Shanghai. I am convinced we shall make no further progress with Decoux until we send at least one cargo of oil, and I hope other arrangements can be made. (C. in C. China, 0351Z/11 to Adty.)
MAREEBA.	Your 1747/6. Nothing heard since sighting by DURBAN 25/6. (S.O.I. Singapore 0407Z/11 to Admty.)
Japanese Fleet.	Soviet N.A. has informed me unspecified units of Japanese fleet had been sighted in Bungo Straits 7/7. All travel to Hokkaido forbidden to foreigners until further notice. (N.A. Tokyo 1703/11 to Admty.)
MARECHAL JOFFRE. (French).	Departure Apia. (Shanghai, 2358Z/11 to M. of W.T).

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

REVENGE. Left Bermuda in accordance with my 1041Q/9. E.T.A. point of arrival 0830P/13. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0833Q/11 to Admty etc).

FORT DE FRANCE. My 0052Q/14 and my 1301Q/13. Every endeavour is to be made to intercept FORT-DE-FRANCE on return voyage from Para. You are at liberty to proceed beyond limit of station if desired but previous experience indicates that effective patrol off Para is difficult to maintain. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1012Q/11 to PRINCE DAVID).

MALAYA. B.A.R.M.'s 1012/8. In view of commitments at Halifax including embarkation of special stores helpful if MALAYA could arrive in time for D.G. calibration p.m./18. (R.A. 3 B.S. 1436P/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

AURANIA. To escort H.X.138 and S.C.37 subsequently proceeding Iceland from Eastern R.V. with personnel and provisions. A/S escorts as in C.C.N.F.'s 1846Z/10. (F.O. 3 B.S., 1446P/11 to Admty etc).

T.C.12. Your 1430B/10. Undesirable for T.C.12 to proceed via Belle Isle Straits unless that route is cleared of contemporary slow convoy. Even if that route is used consider some measure of A/S escort essential in early stage of passage. Suggestions. (R.A. 3 B.S., 1447P/11 to Admty).

FYLERDALE. Your 1341/10. (re no news of ANNA BULGARIS or FYLERDALE). FYLERDALE sailed Quebec 9/7 for Sydney. Cargo grain. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1506Z/11 toNC.S.O.Montreal).

Enemy Shipping. Your 1114/8/6. Transfer of enemy vessels to Mexican flag not yet been recognised. Discussions proceeding with U.S. Govt. for a general settlement with all American States concerning enemy shipping in American ports. Result probably that in return for enemy ships being put to uses of direct or indirect benefit to the war effort, we shall agree to waive our belligerent rights. In view of these negotiations enemy vessels sailing under Mexican flag should not for the present be interferred with. (Hd. of M. 1550B/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

/TOTTENHAM.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

TOTTENHAM (sunk by raider 17/6).

Your 1723B/10. Survivors report TOTTENHAM attacked by raider 1930/17 in 007° 39' S. 019° 12' W. Master ordered abandon ship after one round returned then heavy explosion No. 1 hold. "R" Signal made 5 times. Raider returned about 2230, 12 hits close range then 20 minutes later 6 salvoes. TOTTENHAM caught fire sank 2333. Raider proceeded W. Life Boats second and third Officer 9 men picked up. 6 more men waited under sea anchor until 1730/18 set sail true W. Wind and Sea E.S.E. Force followed by MAHRONDA Rescue and gunk boat at 0745/24 position 0050 34' S. 028° 56' W. arrived Trinidad 2/7. Survivors embarked ORION for U.K. 4/7. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1632Q/11 to Admty).

Suspicious Fishing Craft Newfoundland.

Wireless traffic and other indications point to possibility of Fishing Craft off Newfoundland Banks wearing French, Portuguese and possibly other colours acting in a suspicious manner. Request earliest opportunity be taken to operate in these waters with a view to removing this possible menace to our trade.
(1st S.L., 1706B/11 to C. in C. A.W.I., C.N.S., Ottawa).

T.C.12, H.X. and O.B. Escorts.

Your 2304B/10 and Admty. 1743B/9.
My 1321 Z 10 para. B. Destroyers allocated T.C. 12 are HAVELOCK, HESPERUS, ASSINIBOINE, RESTIGOUCHE, RIPLEY and ST. FRANCIS. BROADWATER is now required for H.X. 138 in lieu RAMSEY defective. (C.C.N.F., 1719Z/11 to A.C.W.A.)
My 1719Z/11.
(1) Intend the two H. and two River Class Destroyers escort convoy from Halifax to R/V X. The two Town Class Destroyers to join off St. John's N.F. or in Belle Isle Strait depending on route chosen.
(11) Request therefore that you will provide two destroyers of Local Escort Force to augment escort from Halifax until Town Class from St. John's N.F. join. (C.C.N.F., 1814Z/11 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).
My 1719Z/11. Destroyers previously allocated to H.X. 139 now required for T.C. 12. Intend substituting WALNEY SENNEN and TOTLAND who will be ordered to leave O.B.344 in 062° 30' W. and proceed to St. Johns N.F. (C.C.N.F., 1721Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Norwegian.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.- Contd.

Norwegian Tanker.	F.O.C.N.A., 1544A/7. Action is being considered with Norwegian Trade Mission in London. Meanwhile request following arrangements for Norwegian tankers and any other ships sailed independently for Freetown or Gibraltar. (D.T.D. 1818B/11 to C. in C. A.W.I., for N.C.S.O.'s)
Military Convoys.	My 2028/18/1 is passed to you under T.O.O. 2338/11 for information and necessary action as may be applicable when sailing T.C. Convoys. Adjusted as necessary to conform with normal responsibilities of C.O.A.C. Halifax and R.A. 3 B.S. (D.T.D. 1819B/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, etc).
NICHOLAS PATERAS Greek.	Your 1648/18. Has not arrived this side. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1853Z/11 to Admty).
Suspicious Ship 28/6.	US. Naval Intelligence New York reports S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES 1700 G.M.T./28/6 in 29.30 N. 67.30 W. approached by armed merchant ship which circled her and proceeded northward at about 20 knots. Description. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2200/11).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

GEORGE I. GOULANDRIS (Sunk 29/6).

BATNA has 28 survivors from GEORGE I GOULANDRIS. (VERITY, 1301B/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

P.L.M.22 GEORGE I GOULANDRIS ST. ANSELM. (S.L.78).

KALYPSO VERGOTI GGBK (corrupt signal letters-) STAD ARNHEM ORANJE MICHAEL JEBSEN not present. Following sunk by torpedo PLM 22 27/6 GEORGE I. GOULANDRIS 29/6, SAINT ANSELM 30/6. (VERITY, 1304B/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

Submarines Reported.

0605.

Sunderland reports Submarine dived in 037° 40' N. 002° 24' E. at 0605/11 course 090°. (F.O.C.N.A., 0950B/11, 0959B/11 to N.A. Stn.)

1747

By D.F. at 1747/11 German U-boat was bearing 300 and 3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1939B/11 to N.A. Stn).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1449B/11).

Submarines Attacked.

By PICOTEE 4/7.

C.A.F.O. No. 834/41 (a) PICOTEE (b) 1250B/4 (c) 061° 40' N 025° 10' W. (d) 14 (e) 1720B/4. (PICOTEE, 1146B/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.7.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

C. in C. H.F. considers it very desirable that a watch should be kept on W/T traffic connected with the U.S.A. Warships now in Iceland in order to ensure that the necessary security is maintained.

NIGER, SALAMANDER and HALCYON of the 6th M/S Flotilla are required for special service and have been ordered to Stornoway to embark Oropesa gear before embarking LL Gear at Aberdeen.

VENOMOUS reported early this morning that she had broken down south of Iceland (C) with engine trouble and that SABRE was towing her to Reykjavik.

British Air Activity

38 Blenheims of Bomber Command operated today against shipping off the Frisian Is. and Dutch coast. A 150 ton vessel is claimed as sunk off Walcheren, in thick fog.

Enemy Air Activity

At 0215 today the Coastguard Station at Lossiemouth was considerably damaged by 2 H.E. Bombs, but there were no casualties.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.7.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

The M/S Trawlers BRACON DENE and AIGLON were both slightly damaged at 1120 today by the explosion of two mines off the Humber. They returned to Grimsby without casualties.

3 S.A. Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary.

Shipping & Convoys

End to End Escorts. All H.G., O.G., S.L., and southbound O.B. convoys (to be called O.S. convoys) are to be escorted throughout their voyages. Re-allocation of ships in Western Approaches Command is shown in C. in C. W.A. 1019B/12.

North Atlantic

LEOPOLD L.D. LONDON intercepted Vichy French SS LEOPOLD L.D. last night in approx. 34° N., 9° W. and is bringing her to Gibraltar. LONDON signalled later that the ship was released.

La Linea Bombed. An aircraft, believed to be Italian, dropped two or three bombs on La Linea at 0300 A today, causing casualties.

/Iron.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.7.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

North Atlantic-Contd.

Iron Ore Traffic, Bilbao.

Consul, Bilbao, reports the arrival of 8 small Dutch ships, loading with iron ore, and probably sailing for France tonight.

South Atlantic

F/B Squadron.

It is proposed to reinforce flying boat strength in West Africa by moving 204 Squadron. (6 Sunderlands) from Iceland to Bathurst, replacing them in Iceland by Catalinas.

The Argentine Govt. have concluded negotiations to purchase the 16 Italian merchant ships taking refuge in her ports.

Mediterranean

Malta Raid.

Malta was raided last night without military damage, although 8 civilians were killed.

Air Raid on Port Said and Suez Canal.

Port Said and Ismailia were attacked by about 30 aircraft in the early hours of today. One Naval mark boat was sunk. SS PATRAI was hit and is resting on the bottom. Dutch SS ALPHARB was damaged by fire. Damage on shore is believed not to be serious. It is possible that mines were dropped near the eastern breakwater Mines are suspected in the Suez Canal and traffic on the Canal stopped except within Lake Timsah and Bitter Lake.

/Cyprus....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.7.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Cyprus

Senior Air Force Officer, Cyprus, reports that owing to the recent air raid and postponement of KIRKLAND, petrol remaining allows of flying operations being maintained for one week only at present rate of consumption.

Palestine & Syria.

The French having asked for an Armistice and having apparently accepted the British terms for discussion, our forces in Syria were instructed to stand fast from 2400/11. Hostilities ceased at 0001/12. The armistice terms will be discussed at 1115 at Acre.

Redistributions intended if a Syrian Armistice is signed are given in a signal from C. in C. Med. today.

At 1048C today, acting on instructions from the Admiralty, C. in C. Med. issued orders once more that until further orders, all French shipping westward of Mersin is to be captured or sunk whether in Turkish territorial waters or not. Meanwhile, since the Admiralty on 10/7 gave orders that French warships escaping from Syria to Turkish ports were not to be attacked in Turkish territorial waters C. in C. Med. fears that some ships may have escaped. Our light forces carried out a sweep, last night from Baynas to Tripoli, but no French vessels were intercepted.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.7.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

America & West Indies

Escort Groups

During the past month, U-Boats have been in-active west of the Newfoundland R/V It is therefore intended to discontinue escort between St. John's and Halifax for the present. A revised organisation for destroyers and corvettes is outlined in Admiralty 1612B/12.

MOST SECRET

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

NIGER
SALAMANDER
HALCYON

NIGER, SALAMANDER and HALCYON are required for special service. Ships are to embark Oropesa Minesweeping stores and spares at Stornoway subsequently proceeding with despatch to Aberdeen to embark L.L. minesweeping gear.
(V.C.N.S. 0207B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)
Return to Stornoway.
(C. in C. W.A., 1005B/12 to NIGER, HALCYON.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Military Co-operation

No.30 Military Mission, Moscow 2109/12 to War Office. See Lion Copy.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

W/T traffic of U.S.A. Warships in Iceland.

Considered very desirable that, for the present, a watch should be kept on W/T traffic connected with U.S.A. Warships in Iceland, to ensure that the necessary standard of security is maintained. Request arrangements for this to be done ashore. Watch could however be kept on occasions by H.M. Ships in harbour on Iceland, request accordingly that details of external and internal U.S.A. W/T organisation may be ascertained.
(C. in C. H.F., 1002B/12 and 1003B/12 to Admty.)

Movements.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN
FURIOUS
PIORUN
LANCE
LEGION

Arrived - CAMERONIAN and SCYTHIA escorted by ROYAL SOVEREIGN, FURIOUS, PIORUN, LANCE and LEGION. FURIOUS with 31 officers and 157 ratings prisoners of war.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0854/12.)

HUSSAR

Sail HUSSAR to Southampton when ready.
(C. in C. W.A. 1435B/12 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)

WORCESTER

When WORCESTER is ready for service C. in C. Nore is requested to sail her to Rosyth for about 2 days to range S.A. gear. She could be used as an S.A. sweeper on passage.
(D.O.D. H. 1737B/12.)

VERSATILE

Part company with convoy tomorrow in time to arrive B.4. buoy at 1500 whence you will be swept in. Speed from Sunken Buoy not to exceed 12 knots.
(C. in C. Nore, 1813B/12 to VERSATILE.)

MOST SECRET

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

A/S Patrol off Noup Head — My 1940/9. Patrol has been withdrawn. (A.C.O.S. 1650B/12.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — Air Patrol Voe C will be flown from 0400/12 to 2200/12 by Sunderland A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0230/12.)
My 0230/12 Patrol Voe C returned to base owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1644/12.)

A/C for FURIOUS — My 1921/4 and 1811B/11. After disembarking aircraft and stores FURIOUS is to embark 800, 812 and 817 Squadrons, personnel and stores. Aircraft to fly on board when ship leaves Clyde. V.A.N.A.S. is requested to move squadrons accordingly. (A.C.N.S. .H. 1733B/12.)
Admty's 1733B/12. Request date you propose flying on Squadron. I am arranging movement of Squadron on assumption it will be 19/7 and that you can receive main body of personnel any day during next week embarking them from Greenock. Arrangements made for Squadron to do deck landing training in ARGUS 14th to 16th July inclusive. (V.A.N.A.S. 2157B/12 to FURIOUS.)

U.S.A. Aircraft for Iceland. Communications — Following has been sent to Chief of Air Corps, War Department Washington. Following has been arranged with Air Ministry for communication between Reykjavik, the air ECHELON arriving on carrier, and a British aircraft which will be provided to escort the ECHELON from the carrier to base. Details. (Air Ministry, 1825/12 to Admty.)

NELSON — Air co-operation will be provided tomorrow as follows. (C. in C. W.A., 2312B/12 to NELSON.)

Enemy Air Activity.

MALVERNIAN (Bombed 1/7) — Arrived LEGION with 17 survivors, and LANCE with (corrupt group) survivors, from MALVERNIAN. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0845/12.)

/Lossiemouth.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Lossiemouth Bombed.

Coastguard Lossiemouth reports at 0215 Lossiemouth was bombed. 2 H.E. Bombs fell within 50 yards of C.G. Station. All telephonic communication destroyed. Very considerable damage done to structure. All staff and families safe.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0918/12.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

Three S.A. Mines detonated today as follows. Details.
(Capt. M/S. Sheerness, 1040/12.)

S.N.70.A.

Your 2247B/7. Escort will not be available.
(C. in C. H.F. 1644B/12 to R.A.M.)

BRACON DENE AIGLON (M/S Trawlers) damaged.

At approx. 1120 today LL Trawlers BRACON DENE and AIGLON exploded a magnetic mine under BRACON DENE's short tail in position 315° 62 D Buoy 6.9. miles. This mine countermined another mine 40 yards ahead of AIGLON. BRACON DENE sustained mine hull damage, both ships internal damage to castings and wireless gear. No casualties. Both ships now safe in Grimsby.
(F.O. Humber, 1915B/12.)

Enemy Intelligence.

NURNBERG

NURNBERG lying alongside free harbour Copenhagen, P.M./10. Graded C.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1119/12.)

BISMARCK

Details of design of ship. (Head of Naval Mission Moscow, 16190/12 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Casualties and Defects.

VENOMOUS

Both extraction pumps broke down. Proceeding in tow of SABRE to Reykjavik. My position 062° 06' N. 022° 04' W.
(VENOMOUS, 0225B/12.)

/CAMPION.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 12.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

CAMPION — Request permission to return to building port. Main and auxiliary engine defects.
(CAMPION, 0929/12.)
Your 0929B/12, Approved.
(D.O.D. H. 1845B/12 to CAMPION.)
CAMPION arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Sunderland, 2040/12.)

TOORAK — TOORAK has fouled mooring 54 A buoy.
(SOUTHDOWN 1110B/12 to SHELDRAKE, F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1400B/12, 1536B/12. C. in C. Nore, 1441B/12, 2153B/12.)

ARBUTUS (Corvette) damaged. — ARBUTUS reports. Collided with S.S.BLACKHEATH at 1215/11. Port side forecastle stove in, hole almost to waterline. Temporary repairs effected and considered satisfactory. Degaussing not working. Proceeding at 10 knots in accordance with VERITY's 1258B/11 but can make Liverpool if desired. Ends. Request instructions.
(C. in C. W.A. 1126B/12.)

JACOB VAN HEEMSKERK — Left Durham escorted by STORK off Bardsey Island with defect cylinder port engine needing major repairs. It (is) probably means cutting cylinder reducing vessel to 14.5 knots estimated time repairs 8 hours speed during repair 9 knots.
(HEEMSKERK, 1600B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

JUPITER — My 1058/11.
JUPITER has developed serious defect in A/S lifting gear which prevents her sailing A.M. and will necessitate dry docking.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1933B/12.)
Intend sailing JUPITER to Liverpool for docking at 2330 today. E.T.A. 0800/13.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2258B/12.)
Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2336B/12.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.9.(C) — PORT CHALMERS and JACOB VAN HEEMSKERK sailed from Barry Roads to R/V with DEUCALION DURHAM and STORK off Scarweather L.V. at 0315B/12.
(N.O.I.C. Newport (Mon.), 0046B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Sailed.....

MOST SECRET

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

W.S.9.(C) Contd. — Sailed Swansea Section W.S.9.(c) guard ship K.B. (N.O.I.C. Swansea, 0250B/12 to Admty.)
HEEMSKERK's 0055/12. STORK is to escort PORT CHALMERS, DEUCALION, and DURHAM in accordance with previous orders. HEEMSKERK should rejoin STORK as soon as repairs have been effected.
(C. In C. W.A., 0333B/12 to HEEMSKERK, STORK).
W.S.9.C. Irish Sea portion one hour late. Commodore expects to arrive at R/V A at 0615B/13.
(WANDERER, 2326B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

End to End Escorts. — Intended to escort all H.G., O.G., S.L. and Southbound O.B. Convoys (to be known in future as O.S. Convoys) throughout their voyages. Re-allocation of ships. (C. in C. W.A., 1019B/12 to all F.O.I.C's, N.O.I.C's etc.)
See Lion Copy.

Balloons — Cancel my X.116. In view of increase in shipping losses at night on East Coast due to air attacks, following temporary rule has been agreed with Admiralty:
"Merchant vessels sailing in convoy between Duncansby Head and Thames may fly lethal balloons up to 1000 ft. during hours of darkness. If cloud base is 1000 ft. or below, balloons are to be close-hauled to 300 feet."
This rule to take effect from 1200 hours 12.7.1941.
(Air Ministry, 1225/12 to R.A.F. Commands.)

H.X.134 — Met as arranged. All ships present and now arrived. Much fog fresh gale on 27/6.
(D.T.D. 1357B/12 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all ships of H.X.134.
(C. in C. W.A., 1812B/12 to Cdre. G.N. Jones, R.N.R.)

H.G.68 — Your 2312/10 (requesting sailing dates).
H.G.68 18/7.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1632B/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

D.S.8. — ROYAL SCOTSMAN, ROYAL ULSTERMAN and ULSTER MONARCH are allocated for Convoy D.S.8 leaving Clyde 21/7.
(D.O.D.(H) 1836/12 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/Ship's.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 12.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Ship's Time. Owing to existing necessity for darkening ship, with consequent lessening of upper deck facilities, ships carrying troops, especially when passing through the tropics, are to adjust "Ship's Time" so that troops are able to make maximum use of daylight without alteration of their routine. Commodores of convoys in which troops are carried should be instructed to fix "Ship's Time" in consultation with senior military or R.A.F. officer on board and to signal this periodically to ships in convoy. (D.T.D. 2117B/12 to N.C.S.O's.)

O.S. & O.N. Convoys. In view of introduction of O.S. Convoys propose in future that O.B. Convoys should be renamed "O.N.". O.B.351 becomes O.N.1.
The routeing of O.G., O.S. and O.N. Convoys being thus self evident.
(C. in C. W.A., 2210B/12 to Admty.)
Your 2332/11 request 393 A Z of 1945/23/6 may be amended to read: 1 to 5 ships escorting
Convoy O.S. Number. 6 to 15 ships escorting
Convoy O.B. Number. 16-20 ships escorting
Convoy O.N. Number.
(C. in C. W.A., 2315B/12 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 12.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

TALISMAN

My P.C. and S. are 035° 23' N. 024° 53' W. 097° 6 knots. Weather.
(TALISMAN, 0001B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

LEOPOLD L.D. (Intercepted by LONDON 11/7)

Your 1956Z. Bring ship to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0056B/12 to LONDON.)
My 0056B. (a) If ship is sabotaged and there is no possibility of bringing her to Gibraltar, she is to be sunk. (b) If French forces attempt to recapture (i) if French force is overwhelmingly superior no action is to be taken except that merchant ship is to be scuttled to avoid recapture. (ii) If French force is not overwhelmingly superior, you should resist them. (c) In any case either under (a) above or if recapture seems likely, ships is to be scuttled, due regard being had to safety of passengers, crew and ship's papers in accordance with International Law, in which case a distress message in accordance with normal merchant ship procedure is to be sent out.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0122B/12 to LONDON.)
E.T.A. with LEOPOLD in company 0030B/13. Part two of your 0122B/12 not received.
(LONDON, 1007B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 0056B/12 addressed LONDON. Attention is drawn to Admiralty 1630B/27/6.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1614B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Cancel my 1007B/12. LEOPOLD released. My E.T.A. Gibraltar 1945B/12.
(LONDON, 1230B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Cable in Straits of Gibraltar.

Your 1952B/10/7. Very approx. 35 miles. A more accurate distance can be given on return of MIRROR.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1134B/12 to Admty.)

Ore Traffic Bilbao.

Arrival 8 Dutch ships, ranging from 200 to 300 tons, JAEDJOER, SPES, REGEJA, WATERWEG, BANKA, BALTIC, THIANTHA, HENK. Loading with iron ore probably sailing for France this evening 12/7.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1149/12 to D.N.I.)
My 1025 (?July 10th). 8 Dutch vessels mostly on maiden voyage and under German flag all from Amsterdam manned by Spanish crews. Majority are (? it seems) to be put into iron ore traffic to (? Bayonne) and one probably two to Rotterdam. Source shipping agents. A one.
(N.A. Madrid, 1645/12 to D.N.I.)

/PETUNIA.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

PETUNIA	Ponta Delgada 1850 G.M.T./11 departure PETUNIA in accordance with my 1228B/10 (N.T. in W.R.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1150B/12.)
KERSTEN MILES CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN.	KERSTEN MILES my 1110/10, now moored at Buoy inner harbour. My 1815/29/5, barge filled last night from CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN about 250 tons now moored at inner harbour. (Consul, Las Palmas, 1220/12, to Admty.)
COURDONNES JEUNE DENISE VIRGO FIDELIS. (French)	Left 10/7. (Bilbao, 1659/12 to D. of S.T.)
French Convoys, Gibraltar.	1 eastbound, 2 westbound. Details in D.O.R., 14/7.
Huelva, pyrites export.	Your 1730/11. Such ships should not be detained unless specific instructions have been issued. Investigations are being made regarding this alleged trade. (D.E.W.D. 1801B/12 to C.C.S.O. Gib.)
Imports for Tangier.	Your 1358/10. This has already been agreed in principle and details are now being worked out. (D.T.D. 2119B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
GROUIN-DU-COU	Admty. 2202B/11. Should be dealt with in accordance with instructions issued for CAP CANTIN in Admty. 2055/14/5. (Head of M. 2137B/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
La Linea bombed.	Aircraft believed Italian dropped two or three bombs on La Linea about 0300A/12. One bomb failed to explode Spanish casualties. (F.O.C.N.A. 2300B/12.)

South Atlantic.

Italian Ships, Argentina	Argentina concluded negotiations to buy all 16 Italian ships taking refuge in her ports. List. (D.S. 676, 12/7.)

CANTON.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.7.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

CANTON	Leave patrol so as to arrive Freetown a.m./13. (C. in C. S.A., 1213N/12 to CANTON.)
CILICIA	To leave Freetown 1700/12 and proceed to patrol in H 33 D, I 33 B. (C. in C. S.A., 1235N/12, to CILICIA.)
HIGHLANDER	Your 0930/10/7. C.O. of HIGHLANDER is sick in OXFORDSHIRE. Malaria probably fit 18/7. Ship will (wait ?) for him unless you direct otherwise. (C. in C. S.A., 1627N/12 to C. in C. W.A.) Concur. (C. in C. W.A., 1215B/13.)
Flying Boats, Bathurst, Gibraltar.	Concur in your proposal to reinforce Flying Boat strength in West Africa by moving 204 Sqdn. from Iceland to Bathurst. Six Sunderlands are required at Gibraltar for special duty for seven days from 17/7. This commitment will it is hoped be met by Sunderlands of 204 Sqdn. On completion of duty at Gibraltar, Sunderlands are to proceed to Bathurst. Requested that you will replace Sunderlands withdrawn from Iceland by Catalinas at earliest possible opportunity. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1745B/12 to A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command.)
TEBRO (Italian)	Santos reports has arranged to berth alongside 14/7 to continue loading. Rumoured that she will leave about 16/7. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2012Z/12 to S.A.D.)
MOOLTAN "Q" Report.	Are you satisfied with cancellation of QQQQ message made by MOOLTAN at 1345 G.M.T./11. (A.C.N.S. 2034B/12 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

Situation Report 83.	Syria (? coast). Situation as in my 2201/11. F.O.C. 7 C.S. in AJAX with PHOEBE and 5 destroyers swept coast and examined roadstead to north of Beirut in endeavour to capture French merchant ship reported in my 2349/10. No success reported.

/4 French.....

MOST SECRET

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

Situation Report 83. Contd.

4 French armed trawlers, one old destroyer, and one armed tug have arrived Iskanderun in addition to those reported in my 2301/9.
N.A. Ankara reports they are also being interned and disarmed. Two French S/Ms. have been attacked by aircraft south and southwest of Crete. No certain sinking.
Western Desert. DEFENDER sunk as in my 1444/11 VENDETTA to refit returned to Alexandria with survivors.
Canal still closed to traffic.
(C. in C. Med., 00020/12 to Admty.)

Merchant Ships, Syria.

My 1302/10/7. Desirability of capturing any French or ex-allied merchant ship leaving Syria before Armistice is agreed. Equally desirable to prevent escaping vessels from reaching Axis controlled waters. All such vessels found in territorial waters to Westward of Mersin may be either captured or sunk.
2. Care should be taken not to endanger Turkish property, and authority to sink French vessels in Turkish waters will terminate with signing of Armistice. Even after Armistice, territorial waters and air space may be entered for purpose of intercepting French merchant ships.
(V.C.N.S. 00128/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Armistice Negotiations

Hostilities cease 0100/12. Vichy representative arriving front line 0900. Armistice terms to be discussed at (? Acre) at 1115.
(B.N.L.O. Palestine, 0043/12, to C.S.15.)
My 2201/11. Envoys will present themselves as requested. Hostilities to cease from0001/12.
(C. in C. Med., 0338/12 to C.S.15.)
My 0338/12. Directions given in my 2201/11 are to be adhered to.
(C. in C. Med., 09170/12 to C.S.15.)

Vichy S/Ms, TORBAY.

Your 2249/11 expect to arrive Kaso dusk/12. Will endeavour to fix one with 12 rounds of ammunition and ramming. Request information as to recognition signals of French.
(TORBAY, 01310/12 to Capt. S.1.)
Your 23570/11 and your 01310/12 understood. Well done. Return from Kaso through 33.41 27.16 thence direct. TETRARCH leaves Alexandria p.m./12 direct for Scarpanto Strait. Asia pass recognition signal unknown. You are not to ram but should attack with guns if favourable opportunity occurs.
(Capt. S.1., 09410/12 to TORBAY.)

/URSULA.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

12.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

URSULA — Returning to Malta with defects.
(Cdr. S.1., 0225B/12 to S/Ms. Malta Force.)

Air Raid Port Said, PATRAI sunk, ALPHARB damaged. — Port Said attacked by aircraft between 0300C and 0430C/12. Method repeated dives to level of 1000 feet or less. Approx. 30 bombs. Three or four possible U.X.M's 400 feet 290° from North end Eastern breakwater. Naval damage, one mark boat sunk, no casualties. S.S.PATRAI hit aft by one bomb, one near miss stern, now resting on bottom. Dutch ALPHARB set on fire but fire under control. Shore damage not believed serious.
(N.O.I.C. Port Said, 0537C/12 to Admty., H.Q. R.A.F M.E. 1048/12.)
Mining raid on Canal between 0100C and 0420C/12 Mines suspected in Canal at k.m. 5.9 k.m. 85.3 k.m 96.9 k.m. 136.8 k.m. 151.8 and k.m. 153.4. One of two at k.m. 151.8 exploded spontaneously at 1100C. Large number of bombs, of which two fell in Ismalia. Traffic closed except within Lake Timsah and Bitter Lake.
For attack on Port Said vide N.O.I.C. Port Said 0537/12 to certain addressees only.
(N.T. in W.D.)
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1213C/12.)

Enemy Units — Six destroyers six merchant ships 037° 10' 012° 00' 180° eight knots.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 0650B/12 to S/Ms. Malta Force.)

UNBEATEN P.33 — Cancel patrol line ordered UNBEATEN patrol in 035° 40' 011° 55', P.33 in 035° 50' 012° 08' until in contact with the enemy. Neither submarine is to cross 035° 45'. Final enemy report will be passed next Rugby operational routine. If speed allows UNBEATEN should also shadow and attack convoy during the night and then operate in area X.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 0915B/12 to S/Ms. Malta Force.)

Syria Redispositions — Should Syrian Armistice be signed intend following redispositions.
(C. in C. Med., 1028C/12 to Med. Fleet.)
See Lion Copy.

Vichy Shipping — My 1227C/11. Para (b). Until further orders all French shipping to Westwards of Mersin should be captured or sunk whether in Turkish territorial waters or no.
(C. in C. Med., 1048C/12, to C.S.15, C.S.7. etc.)

/Enemy.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Enemy Ships. Arrival 12/7 GOUVERNEUR GENERAL LAFERRIERE, French for repairs. TIRPITZ, German, probably leaving 14/7, Marseilles. (Cartagena, 1135/12).

Petrol Supply Cyprus. (?C. in C. Med) 0925/12 and 2016/11 (?and) my 2354/11 as result of recent air raid and postponement of KIRKLAND, Senior Air Force Officer states that with petrol remaining flying operations can only be maintained one week at present rate of consumption. C. in C.'s 09 (?25)/12, petrol cannot be made available. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, Cyprus, 1255C/12 to C. in C. Med).

Submarines. Congratualtions on magnificent work being done by your Submarines and Depot Ships and Bases. (F.O.(S) 1258B/12 to Capt. S.1. 3.8, S.O.(S) Malta).

Malta Raid. C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 12/7. Enemy air activity. 4 houses demolished civilian casualties, no military damage or casualties. (H.Q. Malta, 1620/12).

RORQUAL. Leaves Malta p.m./12 as in my 1330B/9 to arrive Apollonia p.m./15 and Alexandria p.m./19. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1655B/12 to Capt. (S) 1).

CACHALOT: Capt. S.1's 1205C/9. Orders. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1721B /12 to CACHALOT).

TRIUMPH reports. 27/6 U-boat sunk as reported in TRIUMPH's 1937C/27 (N.T. in W.R.) 1500 tons Merchant ship and A/S trawler gunned and TRIUMPH damaged night of 5th as reported in TRIUMPH's 2201C/9/7 (N.T. in W.R.) (S.O.(S) Malta, 1740B/12 to Capt. S.1.)

Interception of Vichy Ships. Your 0012/12. This was in the process of being done until receipt of Admty 1302/10 instructions in which are opposite to those now received in your 0012/12. Orders have been given in accordance with latter message but I fear in the meanwhile some of the vessels may have escaped us. (C. in C. Med., 1820/12 to Admty).

/P. 33.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.7.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

P.33 Operation. At 2100B/12 proceed to R/V 3 miles 180° from Hammamet Light. Recognition confirm as previously arranged, pass word will be "TRIPOLI". Boat will be at R/V 1700B/14 with one person only on board. Make careful asdic sweep in case position compromised. Whether successful or not leave R/V at 2200B/14 to intercept convoy given in my 2000B/12 in 036° 27' 011° 54' at about 1300B/15. Convoy is expected at Kerkenah 0500 and Pantellaria 1400. After attack or on surfacing 15/7 return direct to Malta with passengers or to R/V repeating identical operation p.m./16. (Cdr. S.1. 1959B/12 to P.33).

Enemy Convoy. 14 knot convoy of 6 merchant ships 6 destroyers expected to leave Tripoli (Libya) 1600/14 for Kerkenah and Pantellaria. Convoy may depart from position A or D off Tripoli. Suggest UNBEATEN Patrol in the vicinity of N.E. corner of area. (Cdr. S.1. 2000B/12 to S/Ms Malta Force).

S/Ms. Your 2250C/16/6. Submarine refit programme has already been despatched. Every effort will be made to keep up the number of submarines available on Mediterranean Station by provision of new construction submarines. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2023B/12 to C. in C. Med).

Situation Report 84. Syria. Negotiations for armistice are continuing. Active naval operations are suspended. No French vessels intercepted by sweep Banias to Tripoli (Syria) night 11/12.
2. Western Desert. Minor air raid and some shelling by enemy batteries continues at Tobruk.
3. Canal area. N.O.I.C. Port Said 0537/12. Fire in ALPHARD extinguished.
(C. in C. Med., 2328C/12).

East Indies.

S.S. VELEBIT. Your 1952/9. No news. Non arrival reported S.O.(I) Colombo and S.O.(I) Singapore My 0856/7. (N.C.S.O. Rangoon, 0340Z/12 to Admty).

CITY OF DUNKIRK, URBINO. Your 1918/9. Ships arrived here 1st. and 2nd respectively. (S.O.(I) Bombay, 0346Z/12 to Admty).

/MAURITIUS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

MAURITIUS. C. in C. China 0141/12 (N.T. in W.R.) On relief by DURBAN, MAURITIUS is to proceed to Colombo adjusting speed to arrive 1130Z/17 (C. in C. E.I., 0542Z/12 to MAURITIUS).

W.S.9 B. Your 1323/11 and D. of S.T. 2204/11. EXETER Can be made available to escort Group B (B) ships from Durban about 21/7. -(C. in C. E.I., 1440Z/12 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown).

China.

DANAE WARSPITE. Penang departure 11/7 DANAE on escort duty. Singapore, 12/7 arrival and departure WARSPITE. (S.O.(I) Singapore, 1141Z/12 to Admty etc).

America and West Indies.

T.C.12. Your 1447P/11. My 1814Z/11 refers. Consider this best arrangement with present resources of N.E.F. (C.C.N.F., 0336Z/12 to R.A. 3 B.S.)

FRAMHRINGEN bomb fragment. Part of safety clip from a bomb dropped by EAGLE aircraft on German supply ship FRAMHRINGEN has been found in one of the ship's oil tanks. Suggest bomb did not explode. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0513/12 to EAGLE).

IMPERIAL TRANSPORT (tanker). Your 2318/6 arrived 10th delay 48 hours due to congestion loading Fusan. (N.C.S.O. Trinidad 1054Q/12 to Admty).

Routeing by U.S. Naval Authorities. My 1550/7. U.S. Naval Authorities started routeing merchant vessels for near East 4/7. Navy Dept., have given instructions for British C.S.A.S., at Ports concerned to be given details of routes. (N.A. Washington 1215R/12).

RAMILLIES, ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Your 1647P/7. Subject to your remarks intended that ROYAL SOVEREIGN should relieve RAMILLIES in Iceland early in August. RAMILLIES will then proceed to U.K., and be taken in hand for any urgent defects. Suggested that RAMILLIES and REVENGE should not exchange stations as proposed in your 0837/1/7. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1215B/12 to R.A. 3 B.S.)

/U.S. Ships.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.7.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

U.S. Ships for Near East. Admiralty is informed that U.S. Naval Coastal Frontier Command are routeing U.S. Flag Ships carrying supplies to British in Near East and furnishing N.C.S.O's with appropriate information N.C.S.O.'s are to transmit the information thus received by means of routine Vesca and Route Signals. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1347B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Convoy Escorts. St. John's and Halifax, organisation of Groups. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1612B/12 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C. W.A.) See Lion Copy.

RIO NOVO. Your 1919/28. RIO NOVO due Georgetown 30/6 from your port not yet arrived, have you any information. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1458R/12 to R.O. St. Thomas).

SATURN, SVEADROTT, BRAZIL. Your 0001/1/5 sect. 1 para 14. C.S.A. New York advises that eastbound Swedish Ships have been ordered by Stockholm acting on advice of British authority there to follow route 59.10 N. 23.40 W., 62.00 N., 13.00 W. Skopenfjord this route being substantially different from signal quoted above. Ships affected are SATURNS SVEADROTT, BRAZIL. All three sailed N.Y. 9/7. Ships are proceeding by this route and not followin C.S.A.'s instructions. Request that attention of British authority in Stockholm be drawn to Admiralty signal quoted. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1641Z/12 to Admty).

SACRAMENTO VALLEY. (torepdoed 6/6). VESTVANGEN reports salving life boat ex SACRAMENTO VALLEY on 30/6 in 009° 50' N., 059° 17' W. Boat not manned but evidence had been manned previously. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1701Q/12).

CLARKIA. ARMUK 573 12/7. Your UKARM 721 and C. in C. W.A. 1518B/25, has CLARKIA also sailed and if not when may she be expected. Both ships are expected by U.S. authorities at Charleston on 17/7. (B.A.R.M., 2232/12 to Admty).

Australia.

U.S.12. A.C.N.B.'s 1319/18/6 and 0256/22/6. Ships available for U.S. 12 are QUEEN MARY, QUEEN, ELIZABETH, and AQUITANIA. Total capacity about 16000. Suggestions. (D. of S.T., 1822B/12 to A.C.N.B., C. in C. China, C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.7.1941. Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.L.78 (attacked 30/6.) Further to my 1304B/11 BLACKHEATH reports hearing series of S's at 0948Z/29 in 028° 36' N. 024° 18' W. This may have been from GEORGE I. GOULANDRIS. At 1015Z/30 she saw white rockets in 030° 25' N. 024° W. this may have been from one other ship of S.L.78. (VERITY 0708B/12 to C. in C.W.A.)

Unknown ship. Following has been read. Attacked by U-Boat at 0850 in 59.17 N. 8.45 W. (5 RBE (Corrupt merchant ship call sign) 0917/12.)

Submarines Reported.

Admty. Message A.F, position 59° 17' N. 8° 45' W. at 0850/12 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C.0953Z/12.)
Pass through 59° 17' N. 08° 45' W. where U-Boat was sighted by a merchant ship. A/C co-operating. (C. in C.W.A. 1217B/12 to NIGER.)

1212. Indications that an Italian U-Boat is operating within 60 miles of 036° 30' N. 009° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1311B/12 to Capt. D.8 FIREDRAKE.)

Estimated U/B Dispositions. (D.D.I.C.1423B/12.)

1816. Bearings of Italian U.Boat 89 V. at 1816 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 2055B/12.)

2025. Bearings of Italian U.Boat 28 F. at 2025 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 2300B/12.)

2041. Bearings of Italian U.Boat 64 L. at 2041 G.M.T.
2048. Bearings of Italian U.Boat 25 C. at 2048 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 2326B/12.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. M.M. attacked head of rising oil 58.56 N. 7.55 W. (Duty G.83 Sqdn. 0620/12 to R.A.F. Aldergrove.)
Check position (?) 58° 46' N. 7° 57' W. (Duty G.83 Sqdn. 0725/12 to R.A.F. Aldergrove.)

CONVOYS.

Title.	Code Word.	Remarks.
A.B.		Gibraltar to Cape.
A.C.		West going between Egyptian and Western Desert ports.
A.G.		Egypt to Greece.
A.N.		Alexandria to Piraeus (A.N.10-12/12/40 S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1908/12)
A.S.		Piraeus to Alexandria.
B.B.		Belfast to U.K. western ports.
B.C.		Bombay to W.Africa troop convoy (29/5/40)
C.A.		East going between Western Desert and Egypt. (C.in C. Med. 1613/12/2/41)
C.E.		West U.K. ports to Thames.
C.F.		Colombo to Fremantle.
C.W.		Thames to Western U.K. ports.
C.M.		Cape Town to Bombay Troop Convoy (29/5/40)
D.S.	PRODUCT.	Clyde - Iceland Ferry Service.
E.C.		Southend - Clyde. Commenced 1/4/41. See W.D. 15/3/41.
E.N.		West northabout (Methil-Oban) To cease from 31/3/41 - D.T.D. 1023/15/3.
F.N.	PILOT(Odd) AGENT (Even)	Thames to Firth of Forth.
F.P.		Norwegian Troop Convoy (outward)(See 20/4/40)
F.R.		do (See 15/5/40)
F.S.	BOOTY (Odd) ARENA (Even)	Firth of Forth to Thames.
F.S.		Norwegian Troop Convoys (outward) (Commenced 20/4/40)
H.G.		Gibraltar to U.K.
H.N.		Bergen to Methil.
H.X.	JUMBO.	Halifax to U.K. (Commenced 19/9/39) (9 kts.D.T.D.0019B/ 15/7/41)

/K.J.

Title.	Code Word.	Remarks.
K.J.		Jamaica to U.K.
L.E.		Alexandria to Beirut. (? commenced 16/7/41 with L.E.25) See 16.7.41.
M.H.	TOPAZ (See note to O.A)	Milford Haven to Holyhead (C. in C.W.A. 1133/9/7/41 F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1610/10/7/41)
M.T.		Methil to Tyne.
N.P.		Norwegian troop convoy. (See 15.4.40)
N.S.M.		Norwegian troop convoy. (outward) (See 16.4.40)
O.A.	TOPAZ (Even)	Thames to Western Approaches. (on ceasing to run, code word was given to Milford Haven to Holyhead convoys (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1610/10/7/41)
O.B.		Liverpool to Western Approaches (Superseded D.T.D. 0019B/15/7/41)
O.G.		U.K. to Gibraltar including sections for S. Atlantic ports. 7½ kts.
O.N.		Methil to Bergen.
O.N.		(Superseding O.B.) Northbound U.K. to N. America and West Indies 9 knots. (D.T.D.0019B/ 15/7/41)
O.N.(S)		ditto 7½ knots.
O.S.		Southbound U.K. to W. Africa, including sections for West Indies and South Atlantic ports. (D.T.D.0019B/15/7/41)

CONVOYS. - Contd.

Title.	Code Word.	Remarks.
P.W.	SCENT.	Portsmouth to Bristol Channel (Commenced 4/7/41)
S.C.		Sydney (Cape Breton) to U.K. (slow)
S.D.	STANDARD.	Iceland - Clyde Ferry Service.
S.L.	LUCCA.	Freetown to U.K.
S.U.		? Aden to Mombasa/Durban.
S.W.		M.E. to U.K. (returning empty except for passages.)
T.C.		Canada to U.K.(Commenced 10/12/39)
T.M.		Norwegian troop convoy (see 27.4.40)
T.P.		Norwegian Troop convoy (homeward) (See 20.4.40)
U.S.		Australia and N.Z. to U.K. (Commenced 10/1/40)
W.N.	RUSTY.	East northabout.
W.N.L.	LINER.	
W.N.O.	LIMITED.	(1156/14/12)
W.P.	WATCH.	Bristol Channel to Portsmouth. (Commenced 5/7/41)
W.S.		U.K. to M.E. Troops and M.T.

PERMANENT CODE WORDS FOR ESCORTED GROUPS OF M.V's.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1110/28/2/1941)

RANGE.	Dartmouth to Needles. (see below)
SCENT.	Dartmouth to Falmouth.
WATCH.	Falmouth to Dartmouth.
WHEEL.	Falmouth to Hartland Point. (see below)

(C. in C. Plymouth 1806/11/3/41)

SLAVE.	Sailings from Plymouth westward.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1527/4)
(In force from 1200/5/4/41)

RANGE.	Dartmouth to Portland.
SCENT.	Dartmouth to Falmouth.
WATCH.	Falmouth to Dartmouth.
WHEEL.	Plymouth Falmouth to Helwick L.V.
WHEEL I.	Helwick L.V. to Milford Haven.
WHEEL II.	Helwick L.V. to Barry Roads.
SAPPER I.	Milford Haven to Helwick L.V.
SAPPER II.	Barry Roads to Helwick L.V.
SAPPER.	Helwick L.V. to Falmouth and Plymouth.

(F.O.I.C. M.H., 1610/10/7/41)

TOPAZ.	Permament code for Milford - Holyhead convoys.

MOST SECRET

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Battle cruisers at Brest

There were indications today the SCHARNHORST may be leaving Brest shortly. All available M.T.Bs. at Portsmouth, Nore and Dover were ordered to concentrate at Dover, armed with torpedoes and submarines have been ordered into position ready to attack. Air attack with torpedoes on the enemy battle cruisers in Brest was ordered to be made as soon as possible after the anti-torpedo defence should have been removed.

Enemy coastal batteries west of Calais fired 6 rounds at C.E.41 off South Foreland at 0405 today. No damage is reported.

SEALION reports the sinking on 7/7 to 9/7 of two tunny boats and a steam trawler, about 100 miles west of the Gironde.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out no operations today on account of unfavourable weather.

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. SCORTON, in Convoy F.N.92 was damaged at 0320B north of Cromer and was towed to Immingham.

Mining.

S.S. COLLINGDOC is reported mined this morning off Southend pier, and was beached.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operations by TORBAY U-Boat and tanker STROMBO sunk.	TORBAY has sunk a westbound U-boat off Myroni and Italian tanker STROMBO in Zea Channel whilst on passage from Istanbul to Italy for repairs after being torpedoed in June, TORBAY has also sunk a large sailing vessel with troops and stores proceeding from Crete to Nauplia.
Operations by TRIUMPH.	On the night 5/6 July TRIUMPH damaged by gunfire and probably sank a 1500 ton merchant ship and an A/S trawler in Ras Tayones anchorage. TRIUMPH was slightly damaged by shore battery and has returned to Malta.
Libya and Western Desert.	Blenheims attacked a convoy at Tripoli today, and claim to have destroyed a 7,000 ton ship, blown up a 3 masted schooner, and set on fire a 1500 ton merchant ship.
Suez Canal.	Two sections of the Suez Canal are still closed. Mine sweeping today produced negative results.
Syria.	Three British ships, which it is presumed had been seized by the Vichy French, are reported sunk at Beirut, viz. tanker PEGASUS, sunk alongside the North Mole, and S.S. LESBIAN and BRODWAL damaged by bombing and afterwards sunk in deep water, to avoid blocking the port.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Force 19 Transport.

Task Force 19 completed landing and plans depart 13/7. Route to Nantucket. (A.L.U.S.N.A. 1938/13.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Naval information

Number Naval 060 dated July 13th begins. In conversation with Stalin yesterday he emphasized that their navy was small it was modern and men were brave and would fight. He invited me to visit fleet and I hope to do so shortly. Savzniquisov told me he thought that BISMARCK was nearer 49,000 than 45,000 tons. He also said LUTAKW as designed was 19,000 tons standard displacement. I asked if he really meant standard Washington displacement and he said yes. Completion of this ship will be much delayed now owing to non delivery of material from Germany which included six of her guns and fire control gear. Message Ends. (Head of Naval Mission, Moscow, 11540/13.)

Operations.

Convoy C.E.41 shelled

Enemy coastal batteries west of Calais fired six rounds at C.E.41 off South Foreland at 0405 today. No damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover, 0955B/13.)

Brown Ridge Patrol

Weather permitting carry out the following patrol tonight.
One unit of M.G.Bs. in vicinity Brown Ridge.
Short sweep to Northward at daylight may be carried out at senior Officers discretion.
(C. in C. Nore, 1042B/13 and 1521B/13 to BEEHIVE.)
Departures M.G.B.s, 58, 63, 67.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2203B/13.)

SCHARNHORST M.T.Bs. to Dover. SOKOL, TUNA off La Rochelle.

There are indications that SCHARNHORST may be leaving Brest shortly.
All available M.T.Bs. are to concentrate at Dover forthwith armed with torpedoes.
(V.C.N.S. 1400B/13.)
My 1513/13 sailed (M.T.Bs. 35, 38, 219.)
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1622B/13.)
Arrivals M.T.Bs. 35, 38 and 219.
(V.A. Dover, 2107B/13.)

/Arrivals.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 13.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

SCHARNHORST M.T.Bs. to Dover. SOKOL, TUNA off La Rochelle. Contd.

Arrivals M.T.Bs. 14, 18, 30, 31.
(V.A. Dover, 2126B/13.)
Admiralty 1443/13. If SCHARNHORST comes out she may proceed coastwise to La Pallice or Bordeaux. Proceed to patrol within 10 miles of the following positions:-
SOKOL 46° 32' N. 02° 38' W. proceeding west of Roche Bonne.
TUNA 46° 06' N. 02° 04' W. proceeding by most direct route.
B. Object attack enemy main units.
Take every precaution to avoid disclosing your position.
C. Submerged bombing restrictions arranged in area 55 South of 47° N. and East of 04° W.
(F.O.S. 1813B/13.)

SEALION. 2 Tunny Boats and 1 Trawler sunk.

SEALION reports at 0030B/7 sank by gunfire Tunny Boat 100 miles West of Gironde. Embarked and interrogated crew. At 0400B/8 sank by gunfire Tunny Boat 160° Roche Bonne 20 miles. Transferred both crews to another boat. At 1609B/9 sank by gunfire Steam Trawler in 47° N. 4° 30' W. Crew taken on board, interrogated and later transferred to another Steam Trawler.
(F.O.S. 1549B/13.)

British Air Activity.

Operations NOMAD, PRAC QG-QH.

1. Carry out operation NOMAD tonight with up to 8 A/C 53 Squadron.
2. Carry out operation PRAC tonight with 1 A/C 500 Squadron.
3. One A/C of 500 Squadron is to stand by for QG-QH tonight.
(A.C.H.Q. Chatham, 1205/13 to Bircham Newton)

Operations WANDER STEM.

Carry out operation WANDER tonight with 2 A/C 59 Squadron.
Carry out operation STEM tomorrow morning.
(A.C.H.Q. Chatham, 1212/13 to Detling.)

SCHARNHORST GNEISENAU.

Request you will attack enemy Battle Cruisers in Brest with torpedoes as early as possible after anti-torpedo defence is removed.
(V.C.N.S. 1401B/13 to C. in C. Coastal Command.)

/Bomber.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Bomber Command Operations.

Day 12 July. 38 Blenheims were employed against shipping off the Frisians and part of Dutch Coast. In a heavy sea fog one aircraft obtained direct hit on a 150 ton vessel off Walcheren, claimed as a total loss. Minor attacks were made on Bremen Area and Wilhelmshaven Leer.
(H.Q.B.C. 1555/13.)

Air R/C of Clyde Area.

Your A239/7/7 of 1540/7 and my Postagram 1904/3/7. Air-craft will take off from Prestwick or Ayr aerodrome on the first suitable night commencing 13/7. Programme.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1850/11.)

Bombing Restrictions

Institute S.B.R. in area 55 South of 47° N. and East of 04° W. forthwith till further notice.
(H.Q.C.C. 2038/13.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy "Sapper" shadowed.

1 Airplane bearing 270, height 1000 feet, convoy "Sapper". My position 50° 49' N. 4° 54' W.
(CLEVELAND, 0013/13.)
My 0013. A/C disappeared to West. ?
(CLEVELAND, 0021/13.)

Convoy F.N.92 SCORTON (British, 4813 tons) damaged.

At 0320B/13 SCORTON was hit by 2 bombs when 2 miles West of 57C. Buoy. Engines damaged, and one slight casualty. Towed to Humber by Tug SABINE. Arrived 1745/13 and safely berthed in Immingham Wet Dock at 2222/13.
(C. in C. Nore, 0519B/13, 0725B/13.)
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0604B/13.)
F.O. Humber, 0822B/13, 1812B/13.)
(Salvage Officer, Immingham, 2222/13.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary. Mines and Explosions.

3 S.A. Mines detonated on 12/7 as follows. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1534/13.)
During night 12/13 following explosions which cannot be accounted for by minesweepers occurred:- 0050/13 explosion resembling mine in area Maplin Sands. 0705, 0707, and 0712/13 explosions in vicinity of B.1 buoy. One was probably green mine detonated by WINDSOR and others spontaneous. 1608/13 explosion resembling mine in area Maplin Sands. 1600/13 explosion resembling mine near West Girdler. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 2000/13.)

/Your.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Thames Estuary. Mines and Explosions Contd.

Your 1530B/13. At 0708 one explosion was sighted in position 030° North Oaze buoy 4 cables approx. 1.5 miles distant from ship. Another explosion was heard immediately before this but not sighted. Explosions were also heard at 0723, 0725, 0749 (two) and 0757 (two) but these were not observed as fog had reduced visibility.
During this period ship was proceeding at slow speed between East Spile and B.1 buoys.
(WINDSOR, 2103B/13 to C. in C. Nore.)

S.N.70.A.

Cancel my 2247/7.
(R.A.M. 1732/13 to Adty.)

S.N.15.

I understand that escort for S.N.70A is unlikely to be available till towards the end of the month. If two HUNTS could be spared to augment screen and anti-craft defence, and adequate fighter protection can be made available, suggest that S.N.15 be laid with material now embarked as soon as ADVENTURE is ready towards the end of the week.
(R.A.M. 1838/13 to Adty.)

S.N.21A.

Intend to carry out operation S.N.21.A as follows with TEVIOT BANK escorted by CASTLETON and SCOTT on 15 and 16/7. Details.
(R.A.M. 1851B/13.)

COLLINGDOC damaged.

(British 1780 tons.) Reported mined at 0606/13 4 cables S.S.W. of Southend Pier. Has been beached on North Shore to East of the Pier. 2 injured and 2 missing. (D.S.677.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. SCHARNHORST.

At 0800/13 both Battlecruisers and Hipper Cruiser at usual positions with SCHARNHORST emitting white smoke. All of the outer boom excepting portion protecting SCHARNHORST's stern has been removed and is now moored in centre of Rade Abri and floating camouflage previously just outside boom now at Cruisers bows. SCHWABENLAND still present in Rade de Brest. 1 M/V 350 feet is new arrival in Rade since 10/7, otherwise little change in shipping in Port or Rade.
(PRU. St. Eval, 1130/13.)

/Supplementary.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 13.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. SCHARNHORST. Contd.

Supplementary interpretation sortie W.857. SCHARNHORST's camouflage appears unchanged. Some form of protection visible possibly net boom lying close to vessel.
(PRU. St. Eval, 1340/13.)
Your 1601B. It appears from STE/WPR2/13/7 that SCHARNHORST still has some A/T protection round her.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1601/13.)

Technical.

Enemy Rangefinding. Confusion by A/C or Heavy Smoke.

A.M. 2018/6. Operational requirements have precluded carrying out this trial as yet, but when it is practicable to do so intend to incorporate the trial referred to in para. 3. Request therefore that any technical suggestions concerning the type of aerial to be used may be forwarded.
(C. in C. H.F., 0006B/13.)

R-Boats. Proposed Endurance Test.

Request arrangements may be made through F.O.I.C. Liverpool for us to drop three R-Boats near Holyhead and send them under their own power to Milford Haven in advance of ship. The boats are armed and fitted with Army No.18 W/T. The distance of 130 miles at full load should provide useful data on endurance and excellent training for personnel.
(PRINCE PHILLIPPE, 1305B/13 to D.C.O.)

Casualties and Defects.

TOORAK (Fouled buoy 12/7)

Departure Salvage vessel FORDE to assist TOORAK.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0249B/13.)
TOORAK in tow tugs STALWART and ST. MELONS is due at Southend P.M. today where she will anchor for the night.
Ship has foul propeller and unable to steam. Request two tugs may be sent to Southend to tow vessel to London A.M. tomorrow.
(C. in C. Nore, 1103B/13 to F.O.I.C. London.)

FRANKLIN (Survey Ship) damaged.

Convoy E.C.44 with Commodore and 14 ships in company weighed at 0650 in the vicinity of 29 Buoy. FRANKLIN damaged in 2 collisions, entering Aberdeen. Hull watertight.
(FRANKLIN, 0824B/13.)
FRANKLIN arrived ex E.C.44 with considerable upper deck damage from two collisions.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0956/13.)

/Finnish.....

MOST SECRET

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.- Contd.

Finnish wreckage off Shetlands.

Faeroes fishing vessel VESTMANNA reports sighting wreckage in about 60° 40' N. 5° W. at 0330/12. Ship is at Sydero Island now but they suggest some of the wreckage bore Finnish markings and there were several hundred 40 gallons petrol drums floating in vicinity.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 2342B/13.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.9C.

STORK is to escort DURHAM until convoy W.S.9C has been overtaken. Route should be obtained from DURHAM. J.V. HEEMSKERK repeat this signal to NELSON by V/S.
(C. in C. W.A. 0330B/13 to STORK.)

W.S.10.

Revised embarkation arrangements.
(D. of S.T. 1730B/13.)

S.C.35.

Met as arranged, all ships present and now arrived.
(D.T.D. 1737B/13.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.7.1941
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ORWELL. (Norwegian) — Bound Trinidad from Gibraltar request confirmation ship is friendly. (TALISMAN 0835/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

TALISMAN. — FERNDALE and AVONVALE hunting U-Boat in vicinity 35° 20' 16° 35' until a.m./14. T.B.R. arranged 10 miles either side your track from 015° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1136B/13 to TALISMAN.)

Operation H.E.2. — (?My) 1202B/13. My P.C. and S. are 039° 55' N. 013° 37' W. 130° 9 knots at 1600B/13. VIDETTE M.L's 172, 126, 169, 175 in company. E.T.A. at Gibraltar 1430B/15. VIMY, BEVERLEY and M.L's 173, 174, 170, 176 were despatched in 046° 00'N. 017° 30' W. at 0945B/11 to proceed ahead as BEVERLEY's fuel situation and failure of VIMY's evaporator allowed of minimum delay. (FIREDRAKE 1620B/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1212B/13 VIMY and BEVERLEY detached at 0915B/11 in estimated 046° 35' N. 018° 10' W. FIREDRAKE returned for VIDETTE. VIMY and BEVERLEY's sweep in accordance with Admty. 1304B/10 cancelled through weather and defects. My 1930B/13 BEVERLEY proceeding independently to Gibraltar with M.L. Nos.170 and 176. Have ordered M.L. Nos. 173 and 174 to R/V with me off Cape St. Vincent 1600/14. (VIMY 2136B/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Sunderlands at Gib. — O/866 13/7 your 1745 13/7. Owing to shortness of time impossible to fit long range tanks in six Sunderlands before proceeding Gibraltar on 15/7 and 16/7. On completion special duty at Gibraltar aircraft will return to U.K. to fit tanks before proceeding Bathurst. 4 Catalina already in Iceland. (H.Q.C.C.1647/13 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

CANTON. — Leave patrol so as to arrive Freetown a.m./18. (C. in C.S.A. 0624/13 to CANTON.)

MOOLTAN. "Q" msge. — Reference Adty. 2034/12 coded cancellation received 1554/11. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0702Z/13 Your 0702/13. Coded cancellation should have been passed to C. in C.S.A. and Admty. on -receipt in addition to retransmission on Static waves. (C. in C.S.A. 0926N/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

/STRATHAIRD .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

STRATHAIRD.	Sailing with prisoners of war and Service personnel. Details. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 10263/13.)
DURBAN CASTLE.	Your 1753/4. Escort can be provided for DURBAN CASTLE if necessary probably QUEEN OF BERMUDA. (C. in C.S.A. 1115N/13 to Admty.)
Fuelling of A.M.C's.	Recent 22% cut in oil supplies to South America compromises fuelling situation for A.M.C.'s of S.A.Div. who can seldom fuel from Squadron Tanker at sea. Full requirements of CARNARVON CASTLE could not be met during recent visit to Rio de Janeiro. Similar situation exists at Montevideo. A.N.A. Buenos Aires's 2103/11 also refers. (R.A.S.A.D. 1349Z/13 to Admty.)
MOOLTAN.	Small Fuel capacity of transport MOOLTAN limits speed to 12 knots if routed to Trinidad from Capetown. Request instructions whether ship is to be routed to U.K. via Trinidad at this reduced speed or via Freetown. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1457B/13 to Admty.)
ORION.	Pending a reply to A.T. 1543B/10 ORION may be sailed without escort as far as Bathurst. ORION should avoid all shipping on paggage. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1668B/13 to C. in C.S.A.)
BIRMINGHAM.	Admty. 1323/21/6 and my 0031/23/6. BIRMINGHAM will be ready to leave Simonstown 23/7. There are about 70 ratings for this ship at Freetown. Intend BIRMINGHAM shall proceed Freetown to embark there and then join E.A.D. as required by R.A.S.A.D This should be about 6/8 in Rio de Janeiro, or (?11th) August off Plate. (C. in C.S.A. 1723N/13 to Admty.)
W.S. 10.	Re bunkering of two coal burning transports. (D. of S.T. 1731B/13 to C. in C.S.A.)
ERLANGEN. (German)	Ordered to be ready to sail 14/7 E.S. (S.O. (I) Montevideo. 1954Z/13.)
VILLE D'ORAN (Vichy French)	Reported left Tamatave 8/7 for Dakar unescorted. May pass Cape 13/7 latitude of St. Helena 18/7 and that of Freetown 23/7. These dates very approximate. (C. in C.S.A. 2131N/13 to S.A. Sqdn.)

MOST SECRET

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

HERO VOYAGER S/M attacked.

Enemy S/M sighted in position 32.03 N., 25.54 E. at 0600, 324° unsuccessfully attacked. Am proceeding with VOYAGER who is reduced to 17 knots through engine defect. (HERO, 06100/13 to C. in C. Med.)
My P.C. and S. are at 0700 JH (Corrupt Group) 49 06 123° 17 knots. Request Fighter protection. (HERO, 07030/13 to D.10.)

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S. of enemy 6 destroyers 6 merchant vessels 34.06 N. 12.30 E. (?170°) 7 visibility 3 miles position based on a fix obtained within half an hour of 0500. (Med. A/C "X" 0730/13 to Hal Far.)
My 0730. P.C. and S. 33.33N., 12.53 E. 150° 8 knots. (Med. A/C "X" 0830/13 to Hal Far.)

Air Operations.

Up to 1200 hours 13/7.
1. Syria. No operations.
2. Cyprus. 10/7. 1 Beaufighter on sea recco. -sank an unidentified sailing barge by cannon fire 12/7. Unidentified enemy aircraft bombed Nicosia slightly damaging houses. No casualties.
4. Western Desert. Night 11/12 July. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour starting fires and explosions at bases of Central and Cathedral Moles. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna starting large fires and violent explosions. Hurricanes and Tomahawks provided covering patrols over lighters and H.M. ships North West of Sidi Barrani. Enemy aircraft made 3 attempts to bomb ships but were driven off.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1038/13.)

TIRPITZ. G.G. LA FERRIERE

Departure 12/7 Marseilles Gunsa with valuable cargo.
The latter Oran. (Min. of War Transport 1115/13.)

ORION.

Ref. N.L.O. Durbans 1410Z/9/7. What necessitates ORION's docking? observing she was considered seaworthy for passage to U.K. (? and to) Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 1117C/13 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Re sinking of REFAH (Turkish)

Request you will confirm that neither surface craft nor A/C were in vicinity of position 40 miles south of Mersin in which REFAH was sunk 2230/23/6. N.O.I.C. Cyprus is to report briefly the movements of M.T.B's on night 23rd/24th June giving approx. position through which pass. Exact position M.T.B. 68 meeting Turkish steamship, KAPLAN is to be reported N.O.I.C. Cyprus 1831/24/6 refers. (C. in C. Med. 1143C/13 to N.O.I.C. Cyprus.)

/S.S.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

S.S.PEGASUS. LESBIAN. BRODWELL. It is possible Vichy ships at Alexandretta include British PEGASUS, LESBIAN, BRODWELL seized by Vichy authorities. These ships are British and therefore should be returned to us. Request very early report of precisely what ships from Syria are now in Turkish waters. (C. in C. Med. 12330/13 to N.A. Angora.)
(i) Vichy French Naval Delegation at Armistice conference stated (? no merchant ships) were in Syrian Ports on termination of hostilities, that PEGASUS (? is) sunk alongside North Mole at Beyrout and LESBIAN and BRODWELL were damaged in Beyrout by bombing and subsequently sunk in deep water to avoid blocking harbour. will confirm as soon as possible. J. Quet suggests Naval ships at Alexandretta mentioned in press report of 12/7 may be tanker (? ABOUR) escort ship KLAN tug MARSEILLES Minesweepers AVOCETTE JEBIL SAHI MASSALIA and JEAN MIC. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 2253/13 to C. in C. Med.)

Greek Fleet. My 1554/20/5 and Admty. 2027/21/5. Greek Minister of Marine requests necessary funds for pay and maintenance of Greek Fleet from local British Naval sources. (C. in C. Med. 12450/13 to Admty.)

Dispositions. C. in C's 1028/12 para 1. (a) Request KIMBERLEY, GRIFFIN, HAVOCK, HOTSPUR return Alexandria. Para 2 (a) Intend KANDAHAR, JAGUAR to escort. Intend to sail JERVIS independently to Haifa to arrive day 4. Para 2 (?b) Request JACKAL, NIZAM, HASTY return Alexandria on relief by KANDAHAR, JAGUAR and JERVIS. (R.A.D.(Med) 1359/13 to F.O.C. 15 C.S. F.O.C. 7 C.S.)
My 1028C/12. D one Day is 14/7. (C. in C. Med. 17010/13 to Med. Fleet.)

Enemy Shipping. Departures 10/7 COURDONNES, JEUNE, DANISE, VIRGO. (Bilbao 1659/12.)

Russian Exchanges. Russian Naval Authorities have asked for agreement in principle for reciprocal exchange two or three officers to be attached to fleet. In their case this would be Black Sea fleet. (H.Q. Naval Mission, Moscow, 17230/13.)

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.7.1941
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air Attack on Enemy Convoy.

On 13/7 4 Blenheims attacked a Convoy outside Tripoli. Photographs confirm following results:- 1 ship, believed tanker 7000 tons, set on fire and claimed completely destroyed. 1 3 masted schooner blown up and sank. 1 M.V. 1500 tons, hit and left well alight. (A.S.O. Summary 235, 14/7.)

Situation Report 85.

Syria. Armistice initialled signature intended date 1100/14. Reported no French mines exist off Beirut and no obstructions in harbour except S.S. PEGASUS sunk clear of entrance. Port services reported in proper working order. Advance Naval Party intending to enter Beirut 0900/15.
2. Western Desert. Increased shelling at Tobruk.
4. Submarines. TORBAY has sunk westbound U-Boat off Myroni and tanker STROMBO in Zea Channel, also large sailing vessel with troops and stores proceeding from Crete to Nauplia, TRIUMPH attacked 1500 ton merchant ship and A/S trawler with gunfire in Ras Tayones anchorage night 5th/6th both certainly damaged probably sunk. TRIUMPH slightly damaged by shore battery has returned to Malta. UPHOLDER sank 5500 ton laden westbound ship proceeding Messina 5/7. Request names of TRIUMPH and UPHOLDER be not published. (C. in C. Med. 21310/13 to Admty.)

Suez Canal.

Situation 20000/13, 2 mines of 10/7 and 4 of 12/7 considered to remain. Canal closed to traffic from Deversoir to Khassab 80 and from Khassab 14 to Port Said. Movements HOBART and KIPLING from Suez to Bitter Lake postponed owing to breakdown of L.L. Sweeper. Minesweeping today has produced negative results. Intend to sweep vessels between Suez and Bitter Lake tomorrow. Port Said is open to shipping subject to mine sweeping operations. U.X.M's suspected close to seaward end eastern breakwater and less certainly between Khassab 2.7 and 3.2. Greek PATRAI sunk and stern of Dutch ALPHARD resting on bottom both in Cherif basin. Neither obstructing navigation. No results obtained from minesweeping today. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 2227C/13 to C. in C. Med.)

ILE DE RE.
LEOPOLD.

Vichy Ships ILE DE RE expected to sail from Marseilles about 28/6 for New York and LEOPOLD sailed from Marseilles 1/7 for Algiers, Casablanca then New York, should not be interferred with. (C. in C.S.A. 2301N/13 to S.A. Station.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Raider. — Although evidence is not definite, it should be assumed there was a raider operating near 008° N., 088° E. on 26/6. S.S. VELEBIT and MAREEBA who were in Area about this date are overdue. (C. in C. E.I., 1942Z/13 to E.I. Stn.)

Appreciation. (C. in C. E.I., 1954Z/13 to Admty, amended 0520Z/14) See Lion Copy.

China.

Japanese Cargoes. — N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0017 and 1932Z/10. Callao sends ungraded report from Antofagasta last month N.Y.K. cancelled contracts 13,000 tons copper bars for Japan. Manzanillo reports instructions issued to Japanese ships to load there all available mercury, metals, etc. Reporting officer suggests Mexican Govt. export ban imminent. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1516R/13 to Capt. O.S., Singapore).

America & West Indies.

Sinking of TOTTENHAM. — Your 1632Q/11. Request description of raider. (D.D.I.C., 1150B/13 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

FORT DE FRANCE. (French). — My 1111Q/11, not to Admty. Movements of FORT DE FRANCE are still uncertain. If intercepted (? on return) voyage to Martinique, Guadaloupe, and unescorted, she should be boarded and if found to have visited port(s) outside French Guiana she should be taken to Trinidad. If found to have visited only French Guiana she is to be allowed to proceed. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1301Q/13 to PRINCE DAVID).

Your 1150B/13 Raider no details here. (F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1505Q/13 to Admty).

Port of Spain. — Your 2318/8. Delay to Admiralty transport oiler and other ship are now inevitable owing to lack of loading facilities. Acute shortage of N.C.S.O. staff. (N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, Trinidad, 1216Q/13 to Admty).

Routeing — Your 1215B/12. Concur. (F.O.C. 3 B.S. 1225P/13 to Admty).

/FORT DE FRANCE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

FORT DE FRANCE. My 1621B/7. Last sentence commencing 'If on the return journey' is to apply only if FORT DE FRANCE is found by Boarding Officer to have been to ports outside French Guiana. If found to have visited only French Guiana she is to be allowed to proceed. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1359B/13 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Suspicious Fishing craft off Newfoundland Banks. Take all possible action to implement Admiralty's 1706B/11. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1329Z/13 to C.O.A.C., Halifax.)
Admiralty's 1706/B/11. reorganization of escort in accordance with Admty's 1612B/12. Release SKEENA and ST. LAURENT from immediate escort duties. Intend these ships to search area indicated during 15, 16 and 17th July sending French ships into Sydney and bringing enemy nationals found on board, Portuguese or other neutrals to St. Johns, Newfoundland. Further search will be conducted as ships become available. (F.O. Newfoundland Force, 1838Z/13 to C. in C. A.W.I., C.N.S. Canada.)

CIRCASSIA. Subject to the concurrence of R.A. 3rd B.S. CIRCASSIA should be retained in Iceland (c) until after arrival of Convoy D.S.8 on (date) (D.O.D. (H) 1550B/13 to R.A. 3 B.S., A.C.I.C.) Concur, (R.A. 3 B.S., 2043P/14).

WEST POINT. U.S. transport WEST POINT repatriating enemy Consuls and manned by naval crew, leaves New York 2359/15 for Lisbon. E.T.A. 22/7. Route. WEST POINT returns from Lisbon with American officials about 25/7 on same course arriving New York about 1/8. Description. Ship has safe conduct and is not to be intercepted. (Hd. of M.1936B/13 to C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.C.N.A., S.O. Force H., S.O. Western Patrol.).

German Ship. Pan-American Airways report Ship is ready for sea tonight: arrived from Para German freighter 8,000 tons at Belem (Para) heavily laden (?main) steam: reported to be sailing tonight 13th. (Capt. I/C Trinidad, 2300Q/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

BARON NAPIER. — British, 3659 tons, reported to have been torpedoed and sunk in attack on Convoy S.L.78 on 26/6, arrived at Barrow-in-Furness today, 13/7. (D.S. 678).

INVERLEE, BROCKLEY HILL. — H.X. 133. Your 1537Z/10 and my 1827B/9. INVERLEE arrived safely. Signal she made was intended to report torpedoing of BROCKLEY HILL. (D.T.D., 1741B/13 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Submarines Reported.

2048/12. — By D/F possible Italian U-Boat at 2048 G.M.T./12 within 60 miles of 36° 30' N., 16° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0049B/13 to N.A. Stn).

0335. — Submarine sighted on surface 035° 20' 016° 35'. (AVON VALE, 0335/13 to Gib., W/T) (F.O.C.N.A., 0733B/13 to N.A. Stn). (C. in C. W.A., 0739B/13 to Admty).

2245B/12. — Contact U.Boat suspected approx. 040° 20' N., 015° 24' W. at 2245B/12. (VIMY, 1930/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1328B/13.)

Submarines Attacked.

By LEICESTER CITY. — Am Attacking possible submarine contact position 230° 45 miles from Myggenaes. (LEICESTER CITY, 1950B/13 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

There were no further indications this evening of the early departure of SCHARNHORST from Brest. Submarines were ordered to resume their stations on patrol.

Northbound O.B. convoys will be renamed O.N., commencing with O.N.1.

British Air Operations.

Weather conditions adversely affected operations last night and no heavy attacks were made on any targets.

Aircraft successfully attacked shipping off the French and Dutch coasts today. Ships of 6000 tons and 3000 tons respectively and a 1500 ton escort vessel are reported hit in a convoy off Ijmuiden and are claimed as total losses. A 2000 ton ship at Le Havre and a 6000 ton ship at Cherbourg were hit.

The Air Ministry state that it is reported that in the raids on Emden on 7/8 and 8/9 April the BURGENLAND (7320 tons) and BUKAREST (4400 tons) were sunk, and that in the raids on Bremerhaven on 7/8 and 9/10 April six ships loaded with war supplies were sunk.

Enemy Air Operations.

Oiler WAR PINDARI was damaged by air attack at Skaale Fiord (Faroes) at 1120 today. A mail steamer is reported to have been damaged off Rtore Dimon. The wreck of the CAROLINA THORDEN at Kvalvig was attacked unsuccessfully.

An enemy aircraft which dropped 3 bombs in the sea off Aberdeen this afternoon is reported to have been destroyed by fire of ships and A.A. guns. Two bombs were also dropped at M.M/S 34 and H.M.T. RIVER ESK which was escorting her; but neither vessel suffered any damage.

/Yarmouth.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations - Contd.

Yarmouth was bombed in the early hours of today. No Naval damage was caused.

Convoy B.B.47 reports being attacked at 1615 in the Bristol Channel. Supporting fighters shot down the attacker, a Do.17. The convoy was undamaged.

9th M/S Flotilla reported being attacked at 1551 in 49° 56' N. 5° 11' W. No damage is reported.

Mining.

Mines were detonated today off the Humber, in the Thames Estuary and off Falmouth.

Mediterranean.

Malta	There were two air raids on Malta last night. Most of the bombs fell in the sea, and no damage or casualties resulted.
CAVOUR	Photographs of Taranto show that the Italian battleship of CAVOUR class which was sunk by F.A.A. on 11/11/40 has been raised since 7/7 and is now in floating dock.
Libya & Western Desert.	18 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night. 2 Wellingtons bombed Bardia. Tobruk harbour was attacked last night.
Air Raids on Suez. Canal mined	There were air raids on the Suez Canal early today, in which it is reported that several mines were dropped in the entrance of the Canal. Hired transport GEORGIC was hit and beached, badly on fire at Suez, and was burnt out, and PRESIDENT BUCHANAN suffered minor damage.

/GEORGIC.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

14.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Air Raids on Suez. Canal mined. Contd.

GEORGIC collided with GLENEARN, causing slight damage and starting a fire, GLENEARN grounded but the fire was got under control and it is expected the ship will be refloated shortly. No Naval casualties are reported.

The port of Suez is closed on account of possible mines and the Canal is closed from Suez to Khassab excluding the Bitter Lakes.

Syria.

The Armistice was signed today. C.S.15 left Haifa for Alexandria with NAIAD, PHOEBE and 4 destroyers. C.S.7 is remaining at Haifa with AJAX and 4 destroyers. CARLISLE and mine-sweepers are standing by to enter Beirut.

America and West Indies.

AURANIA, escorting Convoy S.C.37 reported this evening that she had rammed an iceberg in 51° 47' N. 55° 52' W. Her bow is damaged and she is returning to Halifax when the weather clears. The convoy is now stopped in thick fog near icebergs.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. RUPERT DE LARRINAGA in Convoy O.G.67 was torpedoed at 2153 in 36° 18' N. 21° 11' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.7.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

ECLIPSE. My 0958B/10 para 4 N.O.I.C. Iceland. On completion of present duty return Scapa with all convenient despatch. (R.A.(D) H.F., 0952B/14 to ECLIPSE).
My 1525Z/14. Fuelling impracticable. Am proceeding towards Reykjavik.
(ECLIPSE, 2355Z/14.)

WORCESTER EURYALUS. Admty 1737/B/12. Subject to satisfactory test of S.A. Gear intend to sail WORCESTER as one escort for EURYALUS to Rosyth and to attend on EURYALUS during trials from Rosyth as desired by you. Request you arrange S.A. ranging of WORCESTER and return to this command as soon as possible after departure of EURYALUS.
(C. in C. Nore 1246B/14 to C. in C. Rosyth).

JUPITER. To Sail for Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1947B/14 to C. in C. W.A.) W.D. Note. Cancelled 0756B/15.

Operations.

TRIDENT. Admiralty 1443/13. Establish patrol within 10 miles of position 047° 15' N. 006° W. Object to attack enemy main units and U-Boats. S.B.R. arranged in areas 54 E. 007° W.
(F.O.(S) 1014B/14 to TRIDENT).

M.T.B.s Following is a repetition of my 1438B/13.
(C. in C. Nore, 1340B/14.)

TUNA, SOKOL, TRIDENT. There are no further indications of early departure of SCHARNHORST* Cancel my 1813B/13.
B. TUNA and SOKOL proceed submerged by day to resume patrols ordered in F.O.S. 1307B/10, SOKOL proceeding west of Roche Bonne.
C. TRIDENT proceed submerged by day through 46° N., 06° W., to 46° N., 07° W. Proceed thence to patrol in accordance with F.S.C. 3 in area bounded by 44° N., and 46° N., and 7° W. and 9° W.
D. S.B.R. will be cancelled in area 55 from 0800B/15 and in area 54 from 2100B/15.
(F.O.S. 2143B/14 to TUNA, TRIDENT, SOKOL, 2201B/14 to TRIDENT).

Biscay Sink at sight zone. Sink at sight zone in Biscay area is extended forthwith to meridian 12° W. to the North of 44° 15'. (F.O.S., 2202B/14 to S/Ms area A.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

NELSON. Air co-operation will be provided 14/7 as follows. (C. in C. W.A., 0252B/14 to NELSON).

Lee on Solent. Aerodrome may be obstructed from dusk 19/7 to dusk 20/7. No signal will be displayed. (N.A.S., Lee on Solent, 1036B/14, 1634B/14 to V.A.N.A.S.)

Sunderlands for Gibraltar. AP/78 14/7. Detachment of 204 Squadron up to six aircraft tc fly to Gibraltar to operate under orders O.C. 200 Group for period approx. 17 - 23 July. Aircraft to leave as soon as ready. Essential that four arrive Gibraltar p.m./15. On completion of attachment aircraft return to P.D. for refit after which to fly to Bathurst on posting to West African Station. (H.Q.C.C. 1320/14).

Bomber Command Operations. Day 13/7. No operations, unfavourable weather.
Night 13/14 July. Very bad weather conditions were experienced and no detailed account can be given of results.
Bremen. No results observed.
Shipbuilding Yards at Vegesack. Thunderstorms and 10/10 cloud completely ruined this operation.
Minor attacks on Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Emden etc.
1 aircraft bombed a 5,000 - ton ship at a position 53° 15' N 04° 35' E. and bursts were observed 20 yards from the vessel.
(H.Q.B.C. 1514/14).

Patrols. TROST and STAB will be flown later today. (C. in C. Rosyth 1534/14).
A/S Patrols of exercise area being carried out by 18 Group from 1800/14 until 0830/15. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1656/14).
My 1656/14 Aircraft being withdrawn owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 1906/14).

Enemy Air Operations.

Yarmouth bombed. Yarmouth bombed 0321. No naval damage or casualties. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1040B/14).

Convoy SKIPPER. Being attacked by enemy aircraft my position is 49° 56' N., 5° 11' W. (MANGROVE, 1545/14, S.O., 9th M/S.F. 1551/14).

/WAR.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

WAR PINDARI. — Your 1453/14. At 1120 1 Ju.88 attacked WAR PINDARI with 4 H.E. bombs near missing. Aircraft engaged by WAR PINDARI and by 3 guns Skaale Fiord A/A Battery, latter claim possible hits. Damage to WAR PINDARI (Details). (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1715B/14 to A.C.O.S.)

Faeroes. — Attack by two or three enemy aircraft between 1110 and 1145/14. In Skaalefjord by Ju.88 several small bombs dropped at Admiralty Tanker all near misses and village Solmundarfjordur machine gunned plane engaged by 2 pdr. A.A. guns almost certainly hit and 1 engine damaged. At Hvalvik on Strome? when 4 bombs believed aimed at beached Finnish cargo boat fell on land. Off Rtore Dimon when several bombs dropped at Farmese mail steamer when near miss caused minor damage. No casualties. (O.C.Troops Faeroe Is. 1956/14).

WAR PINDARI (bombed 14/7) — My 1715/14. Temporary repairs effected. Ship can now discharge cargo with one pump only and can steam half speed unless hidden damage in other steam pipes becomes apparent. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 0945/15.)

Aberdeen. — At 1550 a Junkers 88 dropped 3 bombs in sea ¼ mile E. by N. from North Pier, Aberdeen, near examination vessel. No damage. 'Plane was fired at by several ships and shore A.A. Guns crashed in flames 2 miles West of Johnshaven. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1731/14).

Mining.

Thames Estuary — 4 S.A. mines detonated on 13/7 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0919/14). S.A. Mines detonated Details. (WINDSOR 1945/14 Capt. M/S Sheerness, 2007/14).

MINICOY (sunk 14/5). — Re Admty 1112B/12. MINICOY was mined and blown to pieces in about 42 feet of water in approx. position 10.4 cables 091° from St. Anns Head Lighthouse. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1154B/14).

/Falmouth.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Falmouth. M.M.S. 18 detonated acoustic mine at 0950/14. in 50° 06' 55" N. 05° 02' 35" W. Details. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1725/14).

Operation S.N.21A. My 1908/14 for 2300/15 read 0900/16. (R.A.(M), 2001B/14).

Humber. Mine detonated 14/7. Details. (F.O. Humber, 2304B/14).

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. Visual R/C at 1350B/14 shows both battlecruisers and PRINZ EUGEN still present in same positions. (D.D.I.C. 1548B/14 to A.I.G. 62, 21 F.O.(S) 1936B/14 to S/Ms area A).

German Main Units. Positions. (D.D.I.C. 1625B/14 to N.A. Stockholm, D.D.I.C., 1626B/14 to A.I.G., 17, S.O. Force H).

Miscellaneous.

Swedish tankers. Swedish tankers carrying Navy oil were in following positions at 0001/14.
(a) SVEADROTT with BRASIL in 43° 24' N 48° 41' W, speed 12 knots.
(b) DARNURNUS. 48° 35' N 39° 54' W, speed 14 knots. All routed via Skopen Fjord.
(Stockholm 1259/14 to Admty).

Casualties and Defects.

BERWICK. Port Adjusting block wiped. Proceeding on starboard engine with port engine doing 70 revolutions. Propose to continue to Rosyth making good about 10 knots. My position is 058° 32' N., 02° 47' W.
(BERWICK 0200B/14).
Send two destroyers to escort BERWICK to Rosyth. (Position and speed as 0200B/14) with one engine in action only.
(C. in C. H.F. 0434B/14 to R.A.D. H.F.)

TAMWORTH damaged. VIENNA was in collision with S.S. TAMWORTH in Southend Anchorage p.m./13. Superficial damage to TAMWORTH. VIENNA proceeded up to London. TAMWORTH is waiting Lloyds Surveyor at Southend.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 0902B/14).

/DANEMARK.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.- Contd.

DANEMAN. Defect earliest sailing tame 1700B/13. KING SOL waiting for completion of DANEMAN repairs. (KING SOL, 2040B/14 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

Shipping and Convoys.

H .X.135. Has arrived complete with Vice-Adm. L.L.P. Willan. 37 British, 12 Allied, 3 Neutral. Cargoes. (D.S. 678).

S.C. 35. Has arrived safely under Rear-Adm. E.K. Boddam-Whetham. 24 British, 10 Allied. (Cargoes) (D.S. 678).

O.B.344. Ships for West Indies should be detached on reaching longitude 54° W. (D.T.D. 1120B/14 to C. in C. W.A., HESPERUS for Commodore).

Start of O.N. Convoys. Admty 1729B/13. This will commence with O.B.351 which will be renamed. O.N.1. (C. in C. W.A., 1128B/14 to F.O.'s I.C. .etc).

Flare Trials O.B.348. Intend to carry out Flare Trials in Convoy O.B. 348 at about 0100/19. between Oversay and Sea of Hebrides. (C. in C. W.A., 1302B/14 to Adty etc). Instructions for use of rockets and flares. (C. in C. W.A., 1940B/14) See Lion Copy.

Kites and Balloons. Oerlikons. Your 1202/28/6 Air Ministry has now agreed to modifying present regulations for kites and balloons on the lines you suggest. No Bofor guns can be spared for coasters. First supplies of Oerlikons for D.E.M.S. are expected this month and priority in provision will be given to large coasters. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1436B/14 to C. in C. Nore).

HEKTORIA. Due to sail Liverpool about 20/7 with Service personnel for Halifax, should be sailed in an appropriate O.N. Convoy and allocated the safest position in the Convoy. (D.T.D., 1951B/14 to N.C.S.O. Mersey).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

French S/Ms. Instructions (received from censorship) to French S/Ms accompanying French Convoys re attacks on British or de Gaulle warships attempting capture. (D.D.I.C., 1916B/14) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

Enemy Unit. Following bearings obtained at 0625/14 G.M.T. call sign 42W. Same unit transmitted same message at 0612/14 G.M.T. Bearings suggest unit in Bay of Biscay. (D.D.I.C. 1057B/14 to F.O.C.N.A.).

LEOPOLD L.D. If LONDON reports any cargo, passengers or mails in LEOPOLD L.D. request any details available by signal to Admiralty. (D.E.W.D. 1119B/14 to F.O.C.N.A.) Reply: 1348/16.

THUNDERBOLT. Orders. (F.O.C.N.A., 1208B/14).
Your 1008B/11 and 1208B/14. My P.C. and S at 2000B/14 035° 11' N. 029° 31' W. 109° 8 knots. Port vibration dampers carrier fractured. Engine is running with weights dismantled. A complete new unit will probably be required. (THUNDERBOLT, 2102Z/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy A/C over Rock. At 0259A/14 one unidentified A/C approached Rock at 8000 feet and was engaged. Report from Spain indicated A/C dropped three bombs which fell in the sea close to Campamento. (F.O.C.N.A., 1224A/14 to Admty).

French Ships. Arrived 13/7. PRESIDENT LAVIT, COURDONNES, and JEUNE DENISE. VIRGO FIDELIS sank with cargo Iron Ore off Monte Igneldo (San Sebastian) 0030 G.M.T./11. (Bilbao, 1749/14).

CORRIENTES CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN (German). My 1815/29/5, My 1220/12. Barge containing oil fuel placed alongside German CORRIENTES Saturday night emptied and placed alongside tanker CHARLOTTE SCHLIEMANN filled and now alongside CORRIENTES. CORRIENTES is in a favourable position for supplying submarines, local rumours she is doing so at night on starboard side, not visible from shore. Submit action be taken to move CORRIENTES into inner harbour. (Consul, Las Palmas, 1810/14 to Admty).

Export of Pyrites. Your 1730/11 and my 1801/12. Madrid instructed to arrange for departures of ships carrying pyrites with suspected enemy destination from Spanish ports to be reported to F.O.C.N.A., by immediate telegrams.

/Ships.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Exports of Pyrites. Contd.	Ships so reported if intercepted should be detained and cargo reported to M.E.W. (D.E.W.D. 2019B/14 to C.C.S.O. Gib).
French Convoy.	Admty 1953/23/2 and N.A. Lisbon letter No. 40 of 19/2 to D.N.I. GABON, MONTESQUIEU, SPAR AMBROISE escorted by French destroyer L'ADROIT passing eastbound in Territorial waters. In view of 'Substance' S.O. Force H requests no action should be taken. (F.O.C.N.A., 2046B/14 to Admty) Approved. (1st S.L., 0029B/15).

South Atlantic.

MOOLTAN.	Your 1457B/13. MOOLTAN is to be routed to U.K. via Trinidad. (D.T.D. 0015B/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).
STRATHAIRD Service personnel.	Your 1026B/13. Number of personnel carried in an unescorted ship is subject to overriding consideration that no more than 100 may be from any one service, irrespective of purpose for which they are embarked. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1257B/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).
QUEEN OF BERMUDA.	A.M. 1741B/11 and B.A.R.M. 2248/12. QUEEN OF BERMUDA will be taken in hand for refit at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. (D.O.D. (F) 1601B/14 to C. in C. S.A.)
HANNINGTON COURT. suspected sabotage.	HANNINGTON COURT abandoned on fire fore and aft on 14/7 in 33° 35' S, 16° 40' E. Crew picked up by BURDWAN arriving Cape Town 14/7 Admiralty Tug St. DOGMAEL has been sent to stand by HANNINGTON COURT. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1003Z/14 to Admty etc). F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1003Z/14 (N.T. in W.D.) Master of B/S HANNINGTON COURT interviewed on arrival Cape Town at 1130/14 of B/S BURDWAN expressed view that fire in engine room was due to sabotage. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1743B/14 to Admty.)
PAMPANO Italian.	Pernambuco reports has completed discharging and returned to Mole. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1848Z/14 to S.O.(I) Freetown).

/Oil Supply.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Oil Supply. Your 2035/12 (supplying of Naval Oilers by Anglo American Pet. Coy.) Approved. (4th S.L. 1900B/14 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro).

Dakar Convoy. From refugee seamen both from Dakar. SKOTFOSJ HADRIAN, GERDA TOFT, RUTENFJELL and 3 French ships left Dakar for North in Convoy 12/7 in evening. Above ships were interned at Dakar since July 1940. (Command, Bathurst, 2201N/14 to C. in C. S.A.) Amended 1047N/16).

Mediterranean.

Suez Raid, GEORGIC and GLENEARN damaged. About 22 planes raided Suez and Canal Area except Port Said between 0001C and 0421C/14. Shipping at Suez dive bombed. GEORGIC set on fire by direct hit and beached. Magazine blew up about 1000C, ship feared total loss. GEORGIC collided with GLENEARN causing slight damage and starting fire. Latter grounded, expect to refloat. Main object of attack believed GEORGIC and ANSON, latter undamaged, but several near misses. No naval casualties. Port of Suez closed for possible mines in Newport Rock Channel and canal closed from Suez to Khassab excluding Bitter Lakes. Hoped to resume traffic throughout Canal and in Suez tomorrow. (N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik, 0513C/14 S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1241C/14 to Admty etc).

PARTHIAN defects. Admty 1819/11/6. PARTHIAN has developed serious defects. Work of refit is beyond capacity of depot ship staff. Proposed she should proceed U.K. and thence to U.S.A. to refit (Capt. S.1. 1430C/14 to C. in C. Med. etc).

ST. DIDIER. Ambassador Ankara's No. 75 and your 1931/5. Can you confirm that ST. DIDIER was flying Turkish colours. (a) When first attacked in territorial waters (b) in Adalia Harbour. (Head of M. 1502B/14 to C. in C. Med.)

P.33 Operation. My 1959B/12. Special operation postponed till Wednesday and/or Thursday with identical arrangements except possibly 2 in boat. Proceed now to intercept convoy returning direct to Malta on completion of special operation. (Cdr. S.1., 1551B/14 to P.33).

Convoy L.E. 25. My 1028/12 para 2. (a) Sailing of Convoy LE 25 delayed till p.m./16. N.O.I.C. Haifa pass to N.O.I.C. Beirut designate. (C. in C. Med., 1610C/14 to Med. Fleet).

/Malta Raids.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Raids.	C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 14/7. Night 13/14, 2 raids, bombs mostly in sea few on land no casualties or damage. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1615/14)
Enemy Hospital Ships.	A.M. 2038B/22. Request confirmation that Italian Hospital Ships SAN GIUSEPPE and GRADISCA are no longer recognized vide A.F.O.'s 2452/40 and 2651/40. (C. in C. Med,1700C/14 to Admty).
Movements.	Summary No. 209. (C. in C. Med., 1714/14) See Lion Copy.
U.S.A. Ships, Movements.	Your 1015C/24/6. Control of messages from U.S. relating to movements of their shipping is entirely in hands of American Govt., but representations made in the matter. Steps being taken to control such messages at all British Censorship stations. (Head of M. 1720B/14 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal). Your 1015C/24/6. Control of messages from United States relating to movements of their shipping is entirely in the hands of the American Govt., but representations have already been made in the matter. American firms and press are already co-operating. Steps are being taken to control such messages at all British Censorship stations. (Hd. of M. 1726P/14 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area).
NORBURG German.	Arrived with full cargo of Lignite for Aegean. Delayed owing to engine trouble will probably sail 15/7. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1807/14 to C. in C. -Med).
ECCENE.	Your 1636B/24. C. in C. Med., has now approved sailing of ECCENE, emphasising that ship must be scuttled if in danger of capture. Full use is to be made of Turkish waters, ruses and darkness. (N.A. Angora, 1906/14 to Admty).
Suez Canal.	Situation 1900C/14. Three U.X. mines or bombs remaining Km. 159 to 161 from raid today 14/7. Three others exploded after interval of few hours. Previous mines in my 2000 13/7. M/S results negative. GLENEARN refloated at high water and berthed alongside. Minor damage to PRESIDENT BUCHANAN also from near miss. GEORGIC burnt out. Two merchant ships arrived Ismailia from Port Said. Programme prepared for resuming traffic subject to minesweeping throughout Canal tomorrow. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1921C/14 to C. in C. Med).

/Risk to.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Risk to Troopships, Suez.	In view of air raid on Suez involving serious damage to GEORGIC do you consider policy of stopping Troop Ships shortly due at Suez envisaged in Admty 1707/14/6 should be put into effect? Request instructions to implement such policy as you consider desirable. (1st S.L. 2012B/14 to C. in C. Med).
CAVOUR.	Photographs of Taranto show outer harbour two LITTORIO's and One CAVOUR inner harbour. Three cruisers (believed 6") and a few T.B.'s and CAVOUR previously submerged in outer harbour now in floating dock opposite entrance to main graving dock. (V.A. Malta, 2153B/14 to C. in C. Med). Comment by N.I.D. CAVOUR was sunk in outer harbour at Taranto during F.A.A. attack on 11/11/40. In recent reconnaissances of Taranto, CAVOUR has deliberately not been included and it can therefore be assumed that the raising has taken place since 7/7 when last photographic reconnaissance was made. CAVOUR has been lying on her side with the upper deck completely submerged.
Syria Armistice BRODWAL LESBIAN PEGASUS.	Convention signed at 2000/14. Movement of troops into Beirut commences at 1200/15. G.O.C. in C. enters am/16. I intend entering with advanced naval staff p.m./15. French naval representative confirms BRODWAL and LESBIAN are sunk outside, 100 fathom line outside Beirut. Both had been severely damaged by bombing inside the harbour PEGASUS submerged alongside North Mole. Air Commodore states no fighter protection will be available Beirut for some weeks. (Capt. Morse. 2205/14 to C. in C. Med). BRODWAL, LESBIAN, and PEGASUS all British, had presumably been seized by Vichy authorities. (D.S., 678).
Situation Report No. 86.	C.S. 15 left Haifa for Alexandria with NAIAD, PHOEBE and 4 destroyers. C.S. 7 remaining Haifa with AJAX and 4 destroyers. CARLISLE and minesweepers standing by to enter Beirut. (C. in C. Med., 23460/14).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

VELEBIT, MAREKBA, overdue. — My 1942/13 first ship was in Ballast second ship carried full cargo of 4,000 tons sugar. (C. in C. E.I., 0630Z/14 to E.I. Stn).

China.

Indo-China. — My 0543/13. Interview with M. Lemoult, representing Decoux. (C. in C. China, 0427Z/14 to Admty); See Lion Copy.

SI-KIANG (French). — Arrived 12/7. (Souraboya 0501Z/14 to D. of S.T.) My 2206/28. Application now recieved for bunkers to be supplied to SI KIANG at Sourabaya or Balik Papan. Ship has thus apparently left Madagascar without our knowledge. Inform Netherlands Authorities that British companies have been instructed and American companies requested to refuse bunkers for the present. Ask Dutch to co-operate by delaying ship pending conclusion of satisfactory arrangements concerning repatriation of Indo-Chinese troops ex LIEUTENANT ST. LOUBERT BIE.(A.C.N.S.(F) 1031B/14 to C. in C. China).

ODENWAL. (German). — Yokohama departure 12/7. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0507Z/14). 7 German ships at Yokohama. List. (D.S. 678) See Lion Copy.

D'ARTAGNAN, LE CONTE DE LISLE. (French). — Arrived 12/7. (Manilla, 0640Z/14).

GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER. — Departure 14/7 for Singapore. (Saigon, 0909Z/14 to D. of S.T.)

Indo-China. — Policy re oil and cotton. (Head of M., 1247B/14 to C. in C. China) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

H.X. 138. H.X. 139.	My 1321Z/10. Escorts. (C.C.N.F. 0041B/14 to C. in C. W.A.) W.D. Note. T.O.O. subsequently corrected to 1846/10.
FORT DE FRANCE. (French).	My 1301Q/13 FORT DE FRANCE arrived Para 12/7. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0052Q/14 to PRINCE DAVID). My 0052Q/14 and my 1301Q/13. Every endeavour is to be made to intercept FORT-DE-FRANCE on return voyage from Para. You are at liberty to proceed beyond limit of station if desired but previous experience indicates that effective patrol off Para is difficult to maintain. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1012Q/14 to PRINCE DAVID).
Newfoundland Escort, Force.	Organisatinn in accordance with Admty 1612B/12. (Capt. (D) N.F.0157Z/14). See Lion Copy. See Tiger Copy. Capt. (D) N.F.'s 0157Z/14. In order to obtain maximum value from N.E.F.F. destroyers marked for T.C. convoys, which comprise 1/5 of my entire destroyer force, most desirable that earliest possible notice be given of predicted sailing date of these convoys. (C.C.N.F., 1819Z/14 to Admty). Capt. (D) N.F.'s 0157Z/14. H.X. 138 and S.C.37 are escorted by groups 16 and 17. Request group 17 may be returned with next O.B. convoy, SPIKENARD now escorting H.X. 137 being retained to join group 16 for return passage. (C.C.N.F., 1821Z/14 to A.C.I.C. Iceland amended 1345Z/15).
ST. LAURENT H.X. 138.	My 1852Z/13 and my 1846Z/10 ST. LAURENT has been substituted for NIAGARA defective as escort for H.X. 138. (C.C.N.F., 0309Z/14 to Admty. etc).
WOLFE.	Intend to sail WOLFE for Bermuda about 17/7 after arrival NORTHUMBERLAND with personnel etc. (R.A. 3 0926P/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
DOMINION MONARCH.	Your 1255M/14. Escort from Panama to Halifax is not considered necessary. Ship will be routed to take advantage of cover of U.S. coast. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1022Q/14 to N.Z.N.B.)
MALAYA.	Your 1436P/11. This will be arranged. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1122Q/14 to R.A.3 B.S.)

/Leave Bermuda....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

MALAYA Contd.	Leave Bermuda 1230Z + 4 on 16/7 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax so as to arrive 1100Z + 4 on 18/7.(C. in C. A.W.I. 1132Q/14 to MALAYA).
LEITH H.X. 138.	In view of Admty 1612B/12 LEITH with H.X. 138 has been instructed (?to ask for) other orders to proceed to U.K. with convoy. (C.C.N.F. 1329Z/14 to Admty etc).
RIO NOVO.	My 1458R/12. Ottawa reports ship arrived New York 2/7. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1513R/14 to Admty etc).
Convoys Newfoundland.	Cancel my 1713/25. To check progress of Westbound convoys in vicinity of Newfoundland, following procedure is to be addopted. (C. in C. W.A., 1718B/14 to C. in C. A.W.I. etc).
Convoy Escorts.	Your 1612B/12 para 4 A. Considered undesirable to withdraw all local A/S escort from Halifax. Intended to release all Corvettes from Halifax, local Force replacing them with 2 R.C.N., Short Leg Towns from Newfoundland Escort Force. Latter type have insufficient endurance for efficient escort from Newfoundland to Iceland. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1937Z/14 to Admty).
CIRCASSIA.	Your 1550B/13. Concur in retention of CIRCASSIA. (F.O. 3 B.S., 2043P/14 to Admty).
AURANIA. S.C. 37.	Rammed Iceberg in thick fog, 51° 47' N., 55° 52' W. Bow damaged am returning Halifax when weather clears. Convoy S.C. 37 now stopped in above position in thick fog in vicinity of Icebergs. (AURANIA, 2207Z/14 to R.A. 3). AURANIA 2207Z/14. In view of ice damage to AURANIA necessitating return, request you arrange for S.O. of A/S escort to take over duties of ocean escort to H.X. 138 and S.C. (?37) as I cannot get relief for AURANIA there in time to be of value. (R.A. 3 B.S. 2348P/14 to C.C.N.F.)

Australia.

U.S.11B.	Proposals for.(A.C.N.B., 0831Z/14 to D. of S.T.) See Operations Volume.
DOMINION MONARCH.	Your 1615B/13. Concur as many personnel as possible take passage in DOMINION MONARCH. Total number requiring passage. (N.Z.N.B., 1255M/14 to D. of S.T.) See America and West Indies. 1022/14.

MOST SECRET

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

H.X.133

Master of SCOTTISH TRADER, which was in H.X.133, has reported Cape Race Radio broadcast in P.L. a message stating that a convoy was being attacked by submarines and gave latitude, longitude, date and time. Requested you will investigate. Not understood how Cape Race Radio knew that it was a convoy being attacked or why standard working was not used for re-broadcasting.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1655B/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.).

RIVER LUGAR (torpedoed 26/6).

N.C.S.O. Freetown's 2020N/12 and N.C.S.I. 69. (A) RIVER LUGAR (B) 26/6 2250Z plus 1[illegible]23.40 N., 21.10 W. approx. (C) (D) (E) (F) Disposal unknown. Ship sank in one minute (G) Able Seaman. 41 drowned including one passenger and one stowaway. Six survivors.
(C. in C. S.A., 2130N/14 to Admty.)

RUPERT DE LARINAGA

Torpedoed. 36 R 18 N 21 R 11 West.
(Lands End Radio, 2153/14.)
British, 5358 tons, from Tyne to Las Palmas with coal. Position about 190 miles S.E. of Azores. (D.S. 679). Ex O.G.67 (D.O.R.15/7.)

Submarines Reported.

2200/13

For information. Received at 1131 G.M.T. from LOCHBOISDALE:- We have a submarine report handed in by ship without wireless, please report it, submarine report S.S. NOUPHEAD of Kirkwall from Mallaig to Petersport sighted submarine ½ mile distant periscope depth 8 miles E. by S. from Ushnish Light at 2200/13 S/M last seen proceeding southerly direction which would cross course of large 2 funnel vessel approaching from S.W. direction.
(Port Patrick Radio, 1338/14 to Navycharge, Greenock.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1433B/14.)
(F.O.S., 1631B/14.)

Submarines Attacked.

BY LEICESTER CITY

Lost at 2041B after third attack. Have swept area unsuccessfully. When joined by LORD LLOYD propose dual sweep to patrol limits.
(LEICESTER CITY 0025B/14 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)
Sweep completed contact not regained. LORD LLOYD returning to accompany.
(LEICESTER CITY, 0800B/14.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Casualties in fog.

There were some marine casualties in fog today, including S.S. IRIS sunk in collision with BLUE RANGER in Convoy W.N.53 off the Clyde and Special Service Vessel PRINCE PHILIPPE sunk in collision with S.S. EMPIRE WAVE in 55° 5' N. 5° 24' W.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command last night carried out attacks which are reported to have been successful, on Bremen and Rotterdam Docks.

Bad weather very considerably curtailed flying today and no routine patrols were flown.

Enemy Air Operations.

West.

S.S. PORTHMEOR was attacked and her steering gear was damaged at 0315 today, 40 miles N.E. of the Bishops.

YORK CITY reports that coaster FAIRFIELD, sailing independently was sunk at 0215/15 by F.W. A/C 7 miles S.W. of South Stack Light.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

15 aircraft laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands and River Elbe. Mines were also laid off Lorient and St. Nazaire.

Sweepers reported cutting a new type of mine off Portland Bill at 1210. Convoy W.P.4 was diverted to the Southward and a danger area was declared.

Mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary.

Enemy minelaying aircraft, estimated to number 25 operated last night between Spurn Head and Middlesborough.

Mediterranean.

Malta. There were 3 air raids on Malta last night, but no casualties were caused and there was no Naval damage.

Air attack on Messina. Eight Wellingtons bombed the docks at Messina last night with success.

S/M Operations. Capt.(S)1 reports that TORBAY who has been operating in the Aegean sank 5 out of 6 sailing vessels carrying troops which were encountered in 3 days between Nauplia and Crete.

At 1400 today in the Kerkenah area P.33 secured two hits with torpedoes, probably on the largest ship of a northbound escorted convoy of 5 half laden merchantmen. P.33 was heavily depth charged and was slightly damaged by a mishap in diving.

/Libya.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Libya & Western Desert.

VENDETTA was slightly damaged in Tobruk harbour (? by air attack.)

A convoy from Tripoli was attacked by 3 Blenheims today; one 8000 ton ship is claimed as destroyed and another damaged.

Suez Canal

No further mines have been detonated in the Canal and navigation is proceeding throughout the Canal and at the terminal points subject to minesweeping.

Turkish ports.

British ships of more than 5000 tons are not to proceed to Turkish ports in present circumstances.

East Indies.

Iran.

C. in C. India considers that the continued shipment of warlike stores to Iran constitutes an increasing potential danger in an area where the situation is already totally unsatisfactory and he asks the War Office to press for formulation of a definite policy as a matter of urgency.

China.

British and Allied merchant ships over 4000 tons are not to be allowed north of Hong Kong for the present.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

O.B.V. LADY SOMERS was torpedoed at 0410 in 37° 12' N. 20° 32' W. and sank later.

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

CLEVELAND
ISAAC SWEERS — Your 1609B/1/6 and 1851B/7/6. In order to avoid constant changes, prefer if CLEVELAND could remain under my orders and the new HUNT which will take the place of ISAAC SWEERS be allocated to C. in C. Portsmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1319/15 to Adty.)

Destroyers — Employment (A.C.N.S. (H) 1658B/15) see Operations Volume.

RENOWN
REPULSE — Re torpedoes (1st S.L. 2232B/15). See Operations Volume.

Co-operation with Russia.

Proposed Operations — Head of Naval Mission, Moscow 1726C/15.
See Lion Copy.

Defence of U.K.

Rosyth. — My 1830/28/5 and your 1355/29/5. Request the 8 3·7 inch mobile guns movedfrom Clyde for special protection PRINCE OF WALES may be retained at Rosyth observing capital ships as well as Cruisers will be constantly in dockyard at least for several months to come.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1637/15 to Adty.)

Clyde. — Extension of smoke protection if still under consideration is strongly recommended.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1856/15.)

Movements.

JUPITER — Cancel A.M. 1947B/14.
(D.O.D. (H) 0756B/15 to C. in C. W.A.)

BACHAQUERO
MISOA. — Special tank carrying vessels, will be ready to sail for Inverary on 19/7 and 21/7 respectively consider these ships should have special escort.
(N.O.I.C. Tyne, 1706/15 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

ADVENTURE — Is to be sailed for Milford Haven forthwith.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1946B/15 to R.A.(M)).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

SOKOL

If you can get within 5 miles of Ile de Yeu by 0400B/15 do so.
(F.O.(S) 0034B/15 to SOKOL).
My 0034B/15. If large Northbound Supply Ship probably escorted has not been encountered by day-light/15 proceed in accordance with my 2143B/14.
S.B.R. arranged in Area 55 south of 047° N. and east of 004° W. until 0800/16.
(F.O.S. 0052B/15 to SOKOL.)
SOKOL has been ordered to return to vicinity Ile de Yeu until daylight/15 and subsequently to proceed in accordance with my 2143B/14.
(F.O.S. 0054B/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

S/Ms.

British Submarines will be carrying out trials in an area between 56° 30' N. 55° 36' N. and 08° 09' W. and 06° 39' W. from 1600B/18 until 1600B/19. During this period any submarine in this area escorted or unescorted with or without navigation lights is to be considered friendly. N.C.S.Os. are to warn any merchant ships or convoys likely to sail through this area during this period.
(C. in C. W.A. 1536B/15.)

Extending of sink at sight zone.

My 2202B/14. The extension of zone is not being made public. A portion of the Spanish Fleet is normally based at Ferrol. Possible that they may innocently enter zone though most improbable. If Spanish warships are encountered in the sink at sight zone they are not to be attacked.
(F.O.S. 1622B/15 to S/Ms. Area A.)

SOKUL, TUNA, TRIDENT.

Informing them of estimated U-Boat dispositions.
(F.O.S. 1648B/15.)

M.M.S.36

Is to operate from Harwich until further orders. Anticipate she will sail for Granton on 24/7.
(D.M.S. 1958B/15 to F.O.I.C. Harwich.)

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command Operations.

Six Blenheims, escorted by fighters, set out to attack shipping in Cherbourg Docks. Saw one burst on 6000 ton ship etc.
A force of 6 Blenheims, escorted by A/C of Fighter Command, set out to attack shipping in Le Havre Docks.

/one.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command Operations. Contd.

One A/C bombed a 2,000 ton M/V in the docks scoring direct hits.
A further 11 Blenheims were to attack a convoy off Ijmuiden and 4 of them attacked a 6,000 ton M/V, scoring direct hits on rear hatch foredeck and stern. 2 others attacked a 3,000 ton M/V scored at the stern. One further Blenheim scored a direct hit amidships on a 1,500 ton escort vessel. Another attacked a 1,500 ton escort vessel. Another attacked a 1,500 ton M/V with near misses.
3 other Blenheims attacked 3 out of 6 trawlers with W/T aerials. 20 M.W. of Zandvoort with near misses.
(H.Q.B.C., T.H.I. 0215/15.)
Night 14/15 July. Main objectives of 190 aircraft were Bremen, Hanover and Rotterdam Docks. Details of operations. (H.Q.B.C., T.H.I. 1720/15.) See Lion Copy.

T.B.R.

Request T.S/M.B.R. in area between 56° 30' N. and 55° 36' N. and 08° 09' W. and 06° 39' W. from 1600B/18 until 1600B/19.
(C. in C. W.A. 1520B/15 to H.Q.F.C, H.Q.C.C.)

Airacobra aircraft.

Are coming into service forthwith flying principally from aerodromes in the South and West. Description.
(Air Min., 1615/15.)

Enemy Air Operations.

WAR PINDARI (damaged 14/7.)

My 1715/14. Temporary repairs effected. Ship can now discharge cargo with one pump only and can steam half speed unless hidden damage in other steam pipes becomes apparent.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 0945/15 to A.C.O.S.)

S.S.FAIRFIELD

Sunk at about 0215/15 by enemy A/C five miles 250° from S. Stack. One survivor slightly injured picked up by YORK CITY.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1037/15.)
Sunk 230° South Stack Light 7 mile.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1307/15.)

CAROLINA THORDEN

My 1715/14. At 1145/14 aircraft attacked wreck of CARDLINA THORDEN at Kvalvig with 4 bombs all fell on land and failed to explode no damage or casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1142B/15.)

/BRAES O'MAR.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

BRAES O'MAR	Trawler BRAES O'MAR reports when 15 miles W. of Blaskets at 0500/8 being attacked by plane. No casualties no damage.
JACKSORA	Trawler JACKSORA reports when 5 miles W. by S. of St. Govans Lightship at midnight July 5/6th being attacked by a Heinkel 115 plane made a silent approach and dropped two bombs no casualties no damage. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1129/15.)
M.M/S 34 and escort H.M.T. RIVER ESK.	Attacked 1540/14. 57° 48' N. - 1° 56' W. 2 bombs. No help message. Both vessels opened fire with 0.5 M/G and 12 pounder before attack. This is same A/C referred to in my 1731/14. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1152/15.)
Convoy B.B.47	Convoy B.B.47. reports being attacked in 51° 27' 4° 41' at 1615/14. Attacking airplane Do.17 shot down by supporting fighters. No casualties. No damage. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1301/15.)
S.S. PORTHMEOR	Reports being attacked and bombed by aircraft when 40 miles N.E. of Bishops at 0320/15. 1 slight casualty. Damaged steering gear. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1316/15.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary.	Four S.A. Mines 13/7 detonated as follows. (Capt. M/S 1241B/15.) Explosions off Clacton 14/7, 15/7. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1847B/15.)
New type mine off Portland.	Sweepers report cutting new type mine in position 180°. Portland Bill 4 miles at 1210. Convoy W.P.4 diverted to southwards. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1245B/15.) My 1245B/15. Request danger area may be declared 6 miles radius round position 6 miles 180° Portland Bill. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1322B/15 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Operation S.N.21.A.	Departure TEVIOT BANK, CASTLETON, and SCOTT. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A., 2257/15.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

3 German transports (sunk 9/6) — My 1551/11. Details of sinking of 3 Southbound German Transports off Oland 9/6. (N.A. Stockholm, 1541/14.)

TIRPITZ — TIRPITZ located in floating dock at Kiel on 12/7. (D.D.I.C. 2013B/15 to A.L.U.S.N.A.)

Technical.

Oiling Trials. — Request you will provide an oiler and arrange for fuelling at sea trials to be carried out by PRINCESS ASTRID and PRINCESS CHARLOTTE also ROYAL ULSTERMAN when available. (D.O.D.(H) 1105B/15 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Casualties and Defects.

GIRL PAT — Intercept 0259 G.M.T. DE GIRL PAT "Have had collision with IRIS all crew picked up. We are returning to Clyde at slow speed making water forward slightly request tug position 128° 4 miles distant from Pladda. 0355 Ends". (C. in C. W.A. 0459/15.)

BLUE RANGER — Has been in collision and has sunk other ship. She is leeking forward and is returning to harbour with survivors. (N.S.O. Greenock, 0700B/15.)

IRIS BLUE RANGER — S.S. IRIS (Swedish) in Convoy W.N.53 sunk in collision with BLUE RANGER. Latter leaking returned to Greenock with IRIS survivors. Not possible to dock her in Clyde area. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0536/15, N.C.S.O. Greenock 0700B/15, 0954B/15, 1029/15, 1311/15, C. in C. W.A. No T.O.O., F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 2142B/15.)

PRINCE PHILIPPE — Sunk in collision with unknown vessel in dense fog 55° 5' N. 5° 24' W. All boats accounted for. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0607/15, 0958B/15, 1143/15, 1804B/15, SALVONIA 1030B/15, C.O. PRINCE PHILIPPE in SALVONIA 1130B/15.)

ENERGY — Faroese Fishing smack ashore 0222/15 Cairnbulg. Crew taken off by Fraserburgh lifeboat. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0900/15.)

/SEAMAN.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

SEAMAN — Ashore on rocks 2 miles South Carnlough Bay 1340B/15 damaged. Towed to Larne. (C.G. Port Patrick Radio, 1406/15, F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1557B/15, SEAMAN 1755B/15.)

VISCOL — Refloating. Stern frame broken propeller damaged hull not leaking. (Port Patrick W/T, 1530B/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoy Abbreviations — Following are revised or existing abbreviations for ocean convoys:-
O.N. (Supersedes O.B.) - Northbound 9 kt. convoys to North America and West Indies.
O.N. (S) - 7½ kts. as above.
O.S. - Southbound 9 kt. convoys to West Africa including sections for West Indies and South Atlantic ports.
O.G. - Outward 7½ knots convoys to Gibraltar including sections for South Atlantic ports.
H.X. - 9 kt. homeward convoys from Canada.
S.C. - 7½ knots homeward convoys from Canada.
S.L. - 7½ knots homeward convoys from West Africa.
H.G. - 7½ knots homeward convoys from Gibraltar.
Note: Speeds given are the minimum speeds of ships to be included in convoys and must not be taken as speeds of advance.
(D.T.D. 0019B/15 to H.Q.F.C., H.Q. C.C.)

Convoy Time. — Ref. C.B. 04024(40) Art. 98 (b) and (c) except as mentioned below, ships in the various portions of a convoy are to keep "Shore Time" as at their respective ports of departure from the time of sailing until joining the other sections, after which the Commodore should periodically adjust the "Convoy Time" by signal. In the case of H.X. and S.C. convoys, ships in all portions are to keep Halifax time until junction with the Commodore's section. When passing through the tropics, Commodores should adjust "Convoy Time" so as to make the maximum use of daylight.
(D.T.D. 0202B/15 to A.I.G.26, A.I.G.19.)

Coastal Convoys. — Your 1812/9. Arrangements for 2-day cycle.
(C. in C.Portsmouth,1125/15 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

/Service.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.5.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Service Personnel, Larne - Stranraer. Your 2006B/14. Concur that ships should cross unescorted as convenient. Considered that day passages are preferable as air protection can be provided and that night passages in full moonlight should be avoided.
(C. in C. W.A. 1215B/15 to Admty.)

O.G.68 Amended route owing to U/B. From K steer for N, omitting L and M.
(C. in C. W.A. 1558B/15 to Escorts of O.G.68.)
O.G.68 Ref. W A C I Part 132 Para. 10.
Commodore has been instructed that if numbers warrant and sufficient escort are in company S.O. of Escort in consultation Commodore has discretion to detach an escort with ships bound for Portuguese or Spanish Ports W. of Gibraltar so as to arrive off Cape St. Vincent after dark.
(C. in C. W.A. 1822B/15 to HYDRANGEA.)

H.X.135 Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all ships of your convoy H.X.135.
(C. in C. W.A. 1643B/15 to Vice Adm. L.L.P. Willan.)
Numbers and cargoes, (D.S. 678.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.41.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Raiders

Intelligence (D.D.I.C., 1745B/15) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic

French Convoy Your 2046B/14. Approved to take no action. (1st S.L., 0029B/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CORINTHIAN Proceed forthwith to L.1. patrol (F.O.C.N.A. 0658B/15 to CORINTHIAN)
Your 0658B/15. Request you will direct CORINTHIAN to patrol within 60 miles of 32° N., 37° W., leaving that area on 22/7 for Gibraltar. CORINTHIAN should report if fuel situation necessitates an earlier return. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1339B/15 to F.O.C.N.A)
Comply with Admty. 1339/B. (F.O.C.N.A. 1522B/15 to CORINTHIAN)

French Shipping Passing 14/7. French eastward MONTES QVIEU, SAINTE AMBROIS, GABON all full. (V.A.C.N.A. 1023R/15)
French l.c. EPERVIER passed Gib. west bound at 0854/15. (D.O.R. 16/7)

Enemy A/C At 2359/14/7. two apparently hostile aircraft approached the Rock at about 12,000 ft. Engaged by barrage fire, 146 rounds being used in addition to A.A. fire from RENOUN, ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE and EDINBURGH. No bombs dropped and targets turned off immediately barrage started. (Govr. Gib. 1040/15 to W.O.)

Shipping Diversions In order that an accurate plot of shipping to and from Gibraltar may be kept, request all your diversion signals to Merchant Ships may be repeated to Admiralty. (D.T.D. 1137B/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SOURDONNES French Departure 14/7. (Bilbao 1249/15 to M. of W.T.)

INVERNESS Survivors On July 14th 36 (?British) survivors arrived Ilha-do-Corvo (?Azores) (N.A. Lisbon, 1634/15 to Admty.) W.D. Note:- Survivors' ship was INVERNESS. (N.A. Lisbon, 1615/18, correcting his 1231/17)

/Enemy A/C....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic-Contd.

Enemy A/C Gibraltar	One or two enemy A/C approached Gibraltar shortly after 0001A/15. Apparently no bombs dropped on Rock or in Harbour, but possible from unconfirmed reports that objects fell in the sea off Eastern Beach La Linea. (F.O.C.N.A. 1728/15 to Admty.)

South Atlantic

ERLANGEN FORTUNSTELLA	Buenos Aires reports ERLANGEN idle all day 14/7 strong S.E. gale prevents sailing. Italian FORTUNSTELLA received orders to delay departure indefinitely. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 0117Z/15 to S.O.I. Freetown etc)
U-Boat Attack LADY SOMERS	A corrupt SSSS distress message was intercepted by Freetown W/T Station at 0416Z/15 "torpedoed" being the only word received. Any ship having intercepted further details is to report forthwith by W/T. (C. in C. S.A. 1038N/15 to S.A. Stn.) Your 1038B/15. Following was made by LADY SOMERS 37° 12' N., 20° 32' torpedoed 0410/15. (D.C. 2329B/15 to C. in C. S.A.) See also U-Boat Campaign.
Vescas	Take no further action on my 1558 13th. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1137B/14 to Admty.)
HIMALAYA (Italian)	Loading resumed and if work continues at present speed ship should be fully loaded by middle of next week. (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro 1150/15 to S.O.(I) Freetown)
SANDY HOOK	Overdue shipping SANDY HOOK due Capetown 11th from Colombo not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown 1412B/15 to Admty. etc.)

/Vichy S/M's..

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.41.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

Vichy Submarines	Orders to attack intercepting ships. Tactics to be employed against them. (C. in C. S.A. 1654N/15 to S.A. Station) See Lion Copy.
UFFINGTON COURT DARLINGTON COURT	My 1616N/12 and your 1709B/14. Confirm UFFINGTON COURT arrived 12/7. Understood DARLINGTON COURT torpedoed in May. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1630N/15 to Admty.)
FORT DE FRANCE	Vichy Merchant Ship trading in West Indies and to Cayenne is not to be interfered with unless she proceeds to a port outside French Guiana. Ship has gone to Para and is to be intercepted if met. (C. in C. S.A. 1833N/15 to CILICIA amended, 0940N/16) My 1833/15. CILICIA is on patrol in H33D and 133B (C. in C. S.A. 2329N/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
CHATEAU-ROUX (British)	Have you any news? Sailed Duala 15/6 for Port Gentil. (D.T.D. 1949B/15 to N.C.S.O. Freetown) Reply 1612/17.
HIMALAYA (Italian)	Rio de Janeiro reports has resumed loading and should be completed by middle of next week. (S.O.I. Montevideo 20082/15 to S.A.D)
ELIZABETH BAKKE	A.M. 1249/4. The six 'Master' aircraft must be discharged at Capetown instead of Durban. Vessel should be detached from convoy to fuel and discharge aircraft at Capetown, and sail unescorted to R/V with convoy off Durban. (D.O.D. (F) 2206B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
QUEEN OF BERMUDA and Vichy GASCON	QUEEN OF BERMUDA has now been on patrol off Lobito since 3/7 to intercept Vichy GASCON to implement your 1930/25/6. Ship shows no sign of leaving and Consul Loanda reports waiting difficulties over payment for bunkers. Intend QUEEN OF BERMUDA who will soon want fuel shall leave for Capetown 16/7. (C. in C. S.A., 2225N/15 to Admty.) Orders to QUEEN OF BERMUDA (C. in C. S.A. 2351N/15)

/NORDERNEY...

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd

NORNERNEY (German)	My 2052/8 same source states sailing delayed owing to presence of small warship off port reported by Condor plane. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 22552/15 to R.A.S.A.D.)
CRITON (Sunk 21/6) WRAY CASTLE (Sunk 3/5)	Letter received from Capt. Dobeson SS CRITON dated 6/7 states (1) Vessel was 'Captured' at noon G.M.T. on 21/6 (2) All crew safe uninjured and interned at Conakry. (4) WRAY CASTLE's and CRITON's papers lost. No details of capture and sinking given. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2331N/15 to Admty.)

Mediterranean

FORMIDABLE	Can approx. date for FORMIDABLE leaving Mediterranean be given?(1st S.L. 0017/15 to C. in C. Med.)
VENDETTA	Damaged alongside pier. At present capable of full speed but speed may be reduced if flooding extends. Ships are up to programme time at present. Request fighter protection at dawn. (R.A.D. Med. 0410/15 to N.O.I.C. Alexandria)
Enemy Units	P. C. and S. of enemy (5 merchant vessels, 6 destroyers) are 35.05 N., 12.06 E. 340° 10 knots. (Med. A/C Duty T 0725/15) (S.O.(S) Malta, 1135B/15 to S/M's.)
RORQUAL	Orders for return. U-Boats are known to be operating between Tobruk and Alexandria. (Capt. S.1. 0921C/15 to RORQUAL)

/Benghazi.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Benghazi and Bardia Bombed.	Ops Summary No 400. Night 13/14. 18 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour. 2 Wellingtons bombed Bardia results unobserved (H.Q., R.A.F. M.E. 1026/15)
LEANDER	Sail 1630/15 to arrive Haifa 0900/16 and act under orders C.S. 7. (C. in C. Med. 11530/15 to LEANDER)
Syria	Protocols Nos 1 and 2. (C. in C. M.E. to W.O. 1204/15, 1230/15, 1412/15) See Lion Copy.
HASTY NIZAM	Carrying out A/S search between 033° 45' N. and 034° 10' N., and 035° 05' E., and 005° 32' E. during night of 15/16 keeping not less than 5 miles off Syrian Coast. (C.S. 7. 1257C/15 to C. in C. Med. etc.)
N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports	Captain Morse has assumed duties of N.O. in Charge Syria Pprts with H.Q. at Naval Base, Beirut. (N.O.I.C. Syria Ports, 1330C/15 to C. in C. Med.)
D.E.M.S.	Your 1104Z/26. Intend Captain of D.E.M.S. Port Said should proceed to Aden to discuss and agree details of co-operation between E. Med and E.I. D.E.M.S. organization. (C. in C. Med., 1331C/15 to C. in C. E.I.,)
JERVIS	My 1359/13. JERVIS is to leave Alexandria at 1500/16 to arrive Haifa 0800/17 and act under orders of F.O.C. 7 C.S. who is requested to sail one destroyer to arrive Alexandria 0700/18. R.A.(D) Med. 1513C/15 to Capt. D.14)
SALVIA M.L. 1032 CARLISLE	Take M.L. 1032 under your orders and at 1800 sail for R/V with CARLISLE off Beirut at 05300/16. If end of searched channel has not been signalled make for 315° Ras Beirut Light 7 miles (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1758C/15 to SALVIA)
Malta Raids	C.S.R. Malta. Night 14/15. 3 Raids, 15 houses destroyed, no casualties. 15/7 off Tripoli, three
Attack on Convoy	Blenheims attacked convoy. 1 M.V. 8000 tons hit amidships with 2500 lb bomb, causing fires and smoke and an explosion another M.V. 8000 tons was hit in bows. 1 ship claimed totally destroyed and another damaged. 8 Wellingtons attacked Docks
Messina bombed.	at Messina, night 14/15 with 3000 lb. G.P. 6 blast bombs and 3,500 incendiaries. (H.Q. Malta 1931/15)

/A/C Attack.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

A/C attack.	Following has been read. Mersa Matruh from ? ? ? 5 JAS. Am being bombed, position 32.13 N. 25.21 E. (More W/T, 1935/15.)
Suez Canal.	Situation 1900C/15. No mines detonated, navigation proceeding throughout Canal and at terminal ports subject to Minesweeping. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1939C/15 to C. in C. Med.)
S.V's sunk by TORBAY.	TORBAY sank 5 out of 6 sailing vessels encountered in 5 days between Nauplia and Crete. Main merchant ship traffic lane is between Naxos and Mykoni. Germans found in sailing vessels are armed, one ship opened fire with heavy machine gun but missed, one German attempted to throw a hand grenade. (Capt. S.1. 2000C/15 to TETRARCH, OSIRIS) W.D. Note. Summary of TORBAY's patrol report. (C. in C. Med. 2054C/16.)
Greek Fleet.	Admty. 1127/20. Following are my proposals on para. 5 (C. in C. Med. 2041C/15 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
MAURO CROCE. (Italian)	? Arrived 14/7. (Barcelona T.H.I. 2100/15.)
Turkish Ports.	British ships of more than 5000 tons gross should not proceed to Turkish Ports in present circumstances. (C. in C. Med. 2115C/15 to M. of W.T.)
Syria.	H.Q., P. and T.J. advise aerial demonstration over part of Syria will take place 16/6.(details) (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 2130/15 to N.O.I.C.Beyrout etc.)
Risk to Troopships Suez.	Admty. 2012/14. Arrangements are being made for monster liners to be at Suez Bay one at a time for one daylight period only. Watering, fuelling and cargo discharging will be carried out at a Southern anchorage. Other ships over 15,000 will be under weigh South of Suez during darkness returned to anchorage after dawn. Orders already given that not more than four personnel ships and eight store cargo ships were to be in Suez working cargo at one time, and in no case more tha 35 ships of all descriptions. It appears that this order had not been rigidly adhered to and I am enquiring into the reason. (C. in C. Med. 2127C/15 to Admty.)

/Russian .....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd

Russian Eastern Forces

Anxious to send a military mission to H.Q., Russian Far Eastern Forces. Russians before agreeing will probably suggest reciprocal action and ask to send a Russian mission to G.H.Q. M.E. Please consult C. in C. Med. and A.O.C. in C. and cable views?. (W.O. 2135/15 to C. in C., M.E.)

CARLISLE Beyrout

Following is revised instruction for entering Beyrout. (Syrian Port, 2137C/15 to CARLISLE)

COSFORO Italian

Leaves Naples shortly and will pass through 033° 06' 020° 16' at 0630C/19 to arrive Benghazi 1200C/19. Torpedo boat will make A/S search off Benghazi p.m./18 and R/V with BOSFORO in above position. There will be A/S air search along line of approach a.m./18 and A/S and fighter patrols from dawn/19. (Capt. S.1. 2141C/15 to TAKU)

Situation Report 87.

CARLISLE and minesweepers with Naval base party enter Beirut a.m/16. My 2346/14. LEANDER has left Alexandria to join C.S. 7 at Haifa. PERTH has returned to Alexandria with C.S. 15
2. Canal Area. Some movement in Canal today 15th. Ships being swept through.
3. Western Desert. VENDETTA slightly damaged in Tobruk harbour, returning to Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med. 2311C/15 to Admty.)

East Indies

IRIS

Overdue shipping. Greek IRIS left Aden 21/6 for Mombasa not arrived. (S.O.I. Colombo, 0546Z/15 to Admty.)

War Imports Iran.

SS STEEL MAKER ex New York arrives Karachi 14/7 en route Bandar Shahpur with trucks and mechanical transport parts consigned Ministry of Finance, Tehran. Emphasize continued shipment warlike stores to Iran constitutes increasing potential danger. Request you press for formulation of definite policy.
(C. in C. India, 0830/15 to W.O.)

/Indian.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

15.7.1941.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

Indian Ocean	Proposals in event of war with Japan. (D. of L.D., 1157B/15 to F.O.C.R.I.N.) See Operations Volume.
Risk to Troopships, Suez. U.S. 11 A.	Admty. 2012/14 (see Mediterranean) (1) Sweeping operations to assure safety from Coral Pinnacles in anchorage West of Ashrafi are proceeding. Weather conditions will probably render Abu Zanima latitude 029° more suitable as a waiting or transhipment anchorage and a similar sweep will be made there. Latter place has been favourably reported on by CITY OF NEWCASTLE and is recommended by Masters in preference to anchorages 3 (b) and (c) of my 1500/20/6. (2)Re M.W.T. Middle East 1935/14, not to Admty., Aden is unsuitable as a waiting port for big ships except MAURETANIA (see my 0800/8/4) (3) Consider it desirable U.S. 11 A should be accompanied through Red Sea by H.M. ship for communication purposes on passage and at anchorage. Could you spare CALEDON or other ship with naval cypher for this purpose? (4) I have no A.A. ship for protection of anchorage if this is considered necessary. (5) Intend sending STAGPOOL to Suez in readiness to water ships at anchorage if required. (C. in C. E.I., 1250Z/15 to C. n C. Med.) Reply to (3) concurring (C. in C. Med., 1602/16)
KIRRIEMOOR	Your 0940Z/7. Request KIRRIEMOOR be sailed as convenient for Trincomalee to await further instructions. (A.C.N.S./F 2242B/15 to C. in C. E.I.)

China

SIKIANG	Your 1031B/14. Departure of SIKIAN has already been reported see C/S 0759Z/13/6. Decoux stated that he could not hold ship up indefinitely while awaiting Admiralty reply which was not made till 28/6 ship being due to sail 15/6. Necessary action is being taken to delay vessel at Sourabaya if she has not already left. Decoux has not yet replied to terms of Admty. 2206/28/6. Presumably ship will require to discharge Saigon now before returning Durban for troops unless Decoux decided to send another ship. (C. in C. China, 0419Z/15 to Admty.) * and 0244Z/13/7.

/Shipping.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

China-Contd.

Shipping North of Hong Kong

Cancel my 0329/13/3. British and Allied Merchant ships over 4000 tons are not to be allowed north of Hong Kong for present. These instructions do not apply to Dutch who are making their own arrangements. (C. in C. China 0511Z/15 to N.O.I.C. Hong Kong S.O.I. Shanghai)

French Ships

Arrivals 15/7. FRANCOIS ED, MARECHAL JOFFRE Departures LE CONTE DE LISLE (N.C.S.O. Manila, 0721Z/15 to M. of W.T.)

D'ARTAGNAN (French)

F.O. telegram 151 to Batavia (N.T. in W.R.) not understood D'ARTAGNAN arrived Manila 12/7 and all evidence here shows she intends to continue trading on China coast. (C. in C. China, 0853Z/15 to Admty.) (Reply:- 0206/17)

America & West Indies

C.I.P. (French)

St. Thomas departure p.m/14 Martinique. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1046R/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Canadian M.T.B's.

Your 1837/9. Canadian Govt. agrees to transfer of four M.T.B's. Further 8 boats can be made available later. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1454Z/15 to Admty.)

VAN KINSBERGEN

Bermuda departure in accordance with my 1242Q/11 Amended E.T.A. position A 0500Z/21. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1613Q/15 to Admty.)

AURANIA

AURANIA's 2207/14. Should extent of damage necessitate it can AURANIA be received in U.S.A. for repairs to bows and concurrent refit while vessel is in hand and if so at what Yard? (D.O.D.(H.) 1736/15 to B.A.R.M.)

C.I.P. French.

Departure 14/7, Martinique 17/7. (St. Thomas V.I., 1829/15 to M. of W.T.)

/French....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.7. 1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

French Ships for Indo-China. Intercepted letter Rondon Remit and Co. Marseilles gives following dates sailing from Marseilles to Indo-China. VILLE DE VERDUN, 10/7 PIERRE L.D. 13/7, ERIDAN End July, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR, beginning August. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1859Q/15 to S.O.I. Singapore Admty. etc).

AVILA STAR. A.M. 1235B/27 Did not sail in O.B. 344, but with .W.S. 9C on 12/7 and will leave the convoy in approx. 47° 00' N., 24° 00' W., at 1400/16. Route to Trinidad. (D.O.D. (H) 2044B/15 to C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

Escort Groups. Capt. (D) N.F.'s 0149Z/14. Request you sail CHURCHILL, CHESTERFIELD, ARROWHEAD and EYEBRIGHT as a group with one O.B. Convoy. BURNHAM, AGASRIZ WETASKIWIN and MAY FLOWER as another group. Whichever group remains longer should boiler clean as requisite. Grateful for early information of your intended disposition. (C.C.N.F., 2347Z/15 to A.C.I.C.)

Australia.

BENDIGO. My 0251Z/10/6. Ref my 0710Z/9/12/1940 and last paragraph of your 0121/15 /12/1940. In view of depreciation of Far Eastern situation intend retaining BENDIGO on Australia Station for the present. (A.C.N.B., 11262/15 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ARUNDO (attacked 1/7.)
Dutch, 5163 tons, from Haifa to Liverpool, attacked and shelled by S/M at 0230/1 about 530 miles W. of Madeira. ARUNDO claims to have hit S/M with shell fire. (D.S. 679, 15/7.)

GEORGE J. GOULANDRIS (torpedoed 29/6.)
Whole crew landed at Oban on 12/7. (D.S., 679, 15/7.)

INVERNESS
Presumed torpedoed, see North Atlantic 1634/15.

LADY SOMERS (O.B.V.)
37.12 N. 20.32 W. LADY SOMERS torpedoed.
(Via Liverpool W/T, 0410/15.)
Detach one corvette to proceed best speed to assistance of LADY SOMERS reported torpedoed (position) at 0514A/15.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0545A/15 to BIDEFORD.)
Received 0434 G.M.T. LADY SOMERS, 2 torpedoes, sinking 0324. (Lands End Radio, 0635/15.)
Intercept, 0458 G.M.T. LADY SOMERS, CAMPECHE is near in case sunk, please advise.
(Lands End, 0659/15.)

HEKLA
CANDYTUFT has aboard 7 sole surviviors of Icelandic HEKLA torpedoed.
(OTTAWA, 0830/15 to C.C.N.F.)
1215 tons, overdue at Halifax since 7/7, having left Reykjavik on 27/6. (D.S., 680.)

BRISBANE STAR
S S S S 59.18 N. 25.22 W. Sighted submarine periscope 300 yards away heading south at 1110 G.M.T.
(BRISBANE STAR, 1145/15, Lyness W/T, 1157/15, Port Patrick Radio, 1223/15.)
My 1145 G.M.T. corrected position 59.18 N. 27.05 W. 1330 G.M.T.
(BRISBANE STAR, 1338/15, Navycharge Greenock, 1452/15, Liverpool 1451/15.)

RUPERT DE LARRINAGA (torpedoed 14/7.)
Your 0545A/15. Request you will instruct corvette to search also for any survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA torpedoed in 036.18' N. 021.11' W. at 0136/15.
(C. in C. W.A. 1548B/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 0545A/15. Corvette detailed is to search for survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA torpedoed (position) when she has thoroughly searched the area for survivors from LADY SOMERS.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2025B/15 to BIDEFORD.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

15.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

2348/14 — D/F bearings at 2348/14 G.M.T. indicate Italian U-Boat within 60 miles of 030° 00' N. 030° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0252A/15 to N.A. Stn.)

2253A/14 — At 2253A/14, U-boat was in 36° 18' N. 21° 11' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0258A/15, to N.A. Stn.)

0514A. — At 0514A/15 U-Boat was in 037° 12' N. 020° 32' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0551A/15, to N.A. Stn.)

0915 — By D/F at 0915 G.M.T. U-Boat in 52° 30' N. 15° 30' W. reliable fix. May be bound Biscay port.
(D.D.I.C. 1332B/15.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1429B/15 amended 1750B/16.)

Submarines Attacked.

By TORBAY — Congratulations on recent destruction of an Italian U-boat off Mykoni.
(1st S.L., 1334B/15 to TORBAY.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

BACHAQUERO, MUSOA. — Your 1706/15. These ships should be sailed to join appropriate E.C. convoys and are to be treated as special ships.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1152/16 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).

SOKOL. — Orders for leaving patrol.
(Capt. (S) 5. 1455B/16 to SOKOL, 1456B/16 to C. in C. Plymouth).

REPULSE. — Re sailing 1100/19. R.A.D. H.F. to detail three destroyers as screen. They will return with PRINCE OF WALES. (C. in C H.F. 1530B/16).

HEYTHROP. — Your 2313B/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.
HEYTHROP when fully worked up is required to join Med. Fleet in accordance with my 1548/22/5.
No objection to five days delay.
(D.O.D. (H) 1753B/16 to C. in C. H.F.)

FURIOUS. — Take FURIOUS under your orders and give the necessary instructions for her to be sailed from the Clyde as required by you. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1817B/16 to C. in C. H.F.)

MANELA. — Subject to satisfactory arrangements being made for the maintenance of Coastal Command Aircraft at Iceland (c), concur in proposed movements of MANELA.
2. A.C.I.C. is requested to sail MANELA with A/S escort to meet H.X. 137 and to accompany convoy to the Clyde.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1852B/16 to H.Q.C.C., A.C.I.C., C. in C. W.A.)

PRINCE OF WALES. — Arrangements for sailing to Scapa.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2221/16 to B.3.2).

Operations.

HILARY CAVINA. — My 1344B/16 request you will direct HILARY and CAVINA to patrol in areas HZ1, and JZ1.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1359B/16 to F.O.C.N.P.)

Northern Patrol Areas. — GZ1, HZ1, JZ1, GZ2, HZ2, JZ2 to be established. Details. (F.O.C.N.P., 2130B/16) See Summaries Folder.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.G.B.s 90 and 92 were accidentally destroyed by explosion and fire at Portland today.

British Air Operations.

17 ships destroyed at Rotterdam.

36 Bomber Command aircraft attacked shipping at Rotterdam today and claim to have destroyed 17 ships aggregating 97,000 tons and hit and probably severely damaged 5 more ships totalling 3,000 tons.

Coastal Command aircraft engaged in attacks on shipping claim several hits on the stern of a 3,500 ton merchantman off St. Nazaire and a hit with torpedo on a 6 - 7,000 ton tanker off Boulogne.

Mining.

Operation S.N. 21 A.

TEVIOT BANK, escorted by CASTLETON and SCOTT laid mines last night north west of Cape Wrath.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations. - General.

In future, Russian ships are to be routed and reported similarly to other Allied Ships.

North Atlantic.

NELSON is to take the place of RENOWN in Force H, on conclusion of Operation 'Substance'.

Schooner SANTA PRINCESSA arrived at Oporto today with survivors of S.S. DESIGNER reported torpedoed 8/7 near the Azores.

Mediterranean.

Malta. — About 14 aircraft dropped bombs on Malta last night. No damage or casualties were caused.

TORBAY Patrol Report. — TORBAY reports that whilst on patrol recently in Greek waters, in addition to the successes already reported she sank 8 troop and store carrying caiques and schooners, some laden, and on 2/7 attacked and hit an escorted merchantman in Zea Channel. The U-Boat sunk on 5/7 off Mykoni was probably French.

Libya & Western Desert. — 5 Wellingtons bombed Tripoli last night. It is thought a merchant ship was hit alongside. 16 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night 8 magnetic mines were also laid.

Suez Canal. — About 15 to 20 aircraft raided the Suez Canal in the early hours of today, numerous bombs and mines being dropped over a wide area, though apparently none in shipping channels. The situation in the Canal is unaltered.

Syria. — CARLISLE and base party entered Beirut at 0830 today. Convoy LE 25 with M.T. and petrol escorted by COVENTRY, KANDAHAR, and JAGUAR left Alexandria today for Beirut via Port Said.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Vice Admiral Arbuthnot hoisted his flag as C. in C. E.I., in succession to V.A.Leatham today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1930/16.)
STAB and BERT in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2256/16).

Enemy Air Operations.

PORTHMEOR (attacked 15/7).

At 0315. Position 52° 18' N., 5° 0' W. Details. (F.O.I.C., Milford Haven 1152B/16) See 15/7.

Thames Estuary.

At 0504 BALMORAL in position No. 8 engaged unidentified aircraft which flew off in an erratic manner in a S.S.W.ly direction. This or another plane flew to the eastward and when near Oaze Bank dropped a mine or bomb which exploded with a high column of water. (S.O.T. L.D.F., 1641/16)

CAROLINA THORDEN.

Repeating N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1142B/15. (A.C.O.S., 1701B /16).

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

5 Mines were observed to explode 15/7 as follows. (WINDSOR, 0020B/16).
Two S.A. Mines detonated 15/7 16/7 as follows; (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 0835/16, 1235/16).
My 2007/14. After further investigation on sweepers' return to harbour, the 5 S.A. mines reported were all spontaneous explosions. Approximate positions.* (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1654/16).* Positions reported in my 2007/14 were incorrect.

?

A.M. 1658/15. CASTLETON and CHARLESTON detailed. (R.A. (M) 1047/16).

Sweep.

My 1106/16. mine sweep should be carried out where necessary at as short a time interval as practicable before passage of vessel. Sweeps for magnetic mines should be concentrated on portion of channel between centre line and two cables East of centre line.
Special attention is to be given to these portions of channel where depth of water is less than 12 fathoms. (C. in C. Nore, 1108B/16 to N.O.I.C.'s in Command.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Large M.V. and Escort. One Merchant Vessel 3 destroyers 2 A/C bearing 270° 3 miles course 045°. My position 47° 4' N., 2° 22' W. (A/C Duty Y. Group 19 0850/16). WW P and C. of 1 Merchant vessel 20,000 tons 4 escort vessels 2 A/C 46° 37' N. 2° 18' W. 270° (A/C Duty X Group 19 0930/16). Enemy's C. & S. 350° 10 Knts. (A/C Duty X Group 19 0935/16).

Miscellaneous.

Swedish tankers. Reference my 1259/14th following are positions of Swedish tankers at 0001/16. (a) SVEADDROTT and BRASIL 50° 45' N., 37° 44' W. (b) SATURNUS 56° 15' N., 27° 53' W. (N.A. Stockholm 1201/16).

Polish S/Ms. We consider incident is now satisfactorily closed. (N.A. Stockholm, 1549/16).

Casualties and Defects.

H.M.T. LORD DARLING. Ashore near North Cheek Robin Hood's Bay. Ship has heavy list and probably holed. Salvage Officer on way. Tug despatched to stand by. Crew landed by life-boat. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 0420/16).

EMPIRE WAVE. Collided 2.45 a.m. with PRINCE PHILLIPPE in thick fog. EMPIRE WAVE picked up 29 crew off Maidens. Damage to EMPIRE WAVE. No dry dock at Belfast till 28/7. Ship capable steaming Glasgow, Cap. states Naval vessel to blame. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 0910B/16).

Automatic S.O.S. De unknown station at 1432 G.M.T. QSA2 at GLD signals heard by aircraft at maximum strength in 49.38 N., 7.30 W. (Burnham Radio, 1645/16).

M.G.B.s 90 & 92. Destroyed by fire afternoon/16 after explosion in 92 cause unknown. Casualties. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1755B/16).

MONTE CARLO EMPIRE TULIP. At 1640B/16 H.M. Trawler MONTE CARLO in collision with M.V. EMPIRE TULIP, neither vessel appears seriously damaged. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1959B/16).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.10	Date, list of ships, escort arrangements. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1132B/16 to C.s in C. [illegible] etc). See Lion Copy.
O.B.344.	My 1120B/14. Detach St. Lawrence ships in longitude 57° W. (D.T.D. 1146B/16 to C. in C. W.A., HESPERUS for Commodore, ST. FRANCIS.)
S.C. 35.	Congratulations in bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your convoy S.C.35. (C. in C. W.A., 1455B/16 to Rear Admi. E.M. Boddam-Whetham). Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 678).
Service Personnel.	Summary of limitations imposed on numbers travelling in any one unescorted merchant ship. (4th S.L., 1744B/16 to C.s in C., [illegible] etc) See Lion Copy.
Escort Groups.	Orders for. (C. in C. W.A., 2126B/16 to Capts. D). See Lion Copy.
O.S., S.L. H.G., O.G. Convoys.	Re authority to divert. (V.C.N.S., 2305B/16 to C.s in C. W.A., S.A., F.O.C.N.A.) See Lion Copy.
Russian Ships.	In future Russian ships are to be routed and reported similarly to other Allied ships. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2311/16 to Cs. in C. etc).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Convoy. — Passings 15/7. French Eastward ARCTURUS SAUMUR ST COLLETTE ST MARTHE all in ballast. (V.A.C.N.A. 1055B/16 to Admty. for M.E.W.)

Western Patrol. — New patrol areas GZ1, HZ1, JZ1 etc. established. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1344B/16 to F.O.C.N.A.) See Summaries folder.

LEOPOLD L.D. — Your 1119/14. Cargo was 1,621 metric tons cork consigned New York. Crew consisted of 37 officers and men. No information about mails or passengers. (F.O.C.N.A. 1348B/16 to Admty.)

NELSON. RENOWN. — On completion of operation "Substance" NELSON is to remain with Force H. and RENOWN is to return to U.K. to refit. Arrangements for relief of NELSON will be signalled later. (1st Sea Lord 1655B/16 to F.O. Force H.)

CORINTHIAN. — Admty. 1339B/15. Coal situation necessitates leaving area 21/7. Request route instructions to Gibraltar. (CORINTHIAN 2100Z/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)

OLYMPUS O.21. — Departure OLYMPUS and O.21 in accordance with my 1636B/14. (F.O.C.N.A. 2232/b/16 to C. in C. Med.)

South Atlantic.

ERLANGEN. (German) — Following from Buenos Aires. B.2. Secret sources report ERLANGEN is unarmed and intends to scuttle if intercepted. Wireless requires 2 days to repair. Vessel then intends unmooring and anchoring in port in order to slip out at a moment's notice. A.1 secret sources report that a German name of Schneider, Master Mariner, recently arrived from Chile and another German ex LAHN have today left Buenos Aires to join ERLANGEN. (S.O.I Montevideo 0117Z/16 to S.A.D.)

French Ships leaving Dakar. — Ref. Command Bathurst's 2201/14. Two of the three French Ships are GABON and WYOMING. (C. in C.S.A. 1355N/16 to Admty.)

/Gambia .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Gambia.	My 2149/27 and 1541/28. Governor of Gambia proposals for minesweeping and local defence. (C. in C.S.A. 1407N/16 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
Enemy Ships and Mexican Flag.	Negotiations are in progress regarding transfer of enemy ships in American ports to Mexico flag. In view of this ex enemy ships sailing under Mexico flag should not for the present be interfered with if considered to come under this category, but should be reported. (C. in C.S.A. 2283N/16 to S.A. Stn.)

Mediterranean.

SOUFFLEUR lost.	Vichy Govt. admit that the S/M lost in recent Syrian operations was the SOUFFLEUR. (D.S. 680, 16/7.)
GUGLIELMO. (Italian)	Now known sunk by CLYDE on 14/6 by gunfire. 500 ton sailing vessel. (D.S. 680, 16/7.)
Syria.	Text of Armistice agreement. (C. in C.M.E. No T.O.O./16.) See Lion Copy.
Enemy Air Activity. Lighter sunk.	Op. Sum. No. 401 Part 2. Western Desert 15/7. Protective patrol of Hurricanes and Tomahawks over sea convoy proceeding Tobruk intercepted 2 formations of enemy aircraft between Tobruk and Sidi Barrani. Hurricanes shot down 6 JU.87s and 2 ME.109s. 2 Hurricanes missing. 1 lighter sunk by bombs. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1043/16.)
JACKAL. NIZAM, HASTY.	Request you sail to R/V with B.S.1 off Nets at Alexandria a.m./18 as ordered by B.S.1. JERVIS, KANDAHAR, JAGUAR will be in your area by then. (C. in C. Med. 11120/14 to C.S. 7) C. in C. Med. 1112/16 R/V with me at nets 1215/18. (F.O.C. I.B.S. 2319C/16 to Capt. D.7.)
LEANDER, destroyers, troop trans-port.	Request you will sail LEANDER and one destroyer to arrive Port Said at daylight/20 to embark appro (?600) personnel of No.259 Wing and 17th Heavy A.A. Battery. LEANDER and destroyer to sail from Port Said to arrive Famagusta 2300/20 disembark troops and return to Haifa. One destroyer also required to embark approx. 250 personnel No.80 Sqdn. at Haifa p.m./20 to arrive Famagusta 2200/20 disembark troops and return to Haifa. (C. in C. Med. 11140/16 to C.S.7.) Orders to LEANDER (C. in C. Med.1153C/16.)

/Suez .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Suez Canal Raid.	Estimated 15 aircraft raided Canal Area from 0100C to 0400C/16. No naval casualties or damage. Numerous bombs and some mines dropped over wide area but no apparent concentrated attack. Two possible unexploded mines about km. 99 in Great Bitter Lakes far removed from dredged channel and 3 U.X. mines reported in Suez Bay. Result situation unchanged since my 1939/15. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1231C/16, H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1042/16.)
PERTH.	Admty. 1641/2/3. Intend fitting PERTH with AJAX catapults and sailing her for Australia on 19/7. (C. in C. Med. 1234/16 to Admty.) PERTH will arrive Port Said a.m./19 to embark Catapult ex AJAX. To expedite work Catapult should be secured for a sea passage only and not for operation. (C. in C. Med. 1914/16 to N.O.I.C. Port Said.)
REFAH. (Turkish)	Your 1143/10 to C. in C. Med. only. No British or Allied S/M. surface vessel or aircraft near where REFAH attacked. Dispositions on night of 23-24/6. (C. in C. Med. 1400/16 to N.A. Angora) See Lion Copy.
ST. DIDIER.	Your 1502/14. ST. DIDIER was definitely flying Turkish colours when first attacked in territorial waters and pilots of attacking aircraft are also of opinion that she was flying them when in Adalia Roads. Ship has also got her French markings deliberately painted out. (C. in C. Med. 1402/16 to Admty.)
NEPTUNE.	My 1056/6. Request you sail NEPTUNE for Alexandria as soon as removal Catapult is completed. (C. in C. Med. 1416C/16 to S.B.N.O. Suez.)
Convoy L.E. 25.	AJAX, LEANDER and destroyers will be covering convoy L.E. 25 from N.W. during 17/18 returning to Haifa at 0700/18. (C.S.7 1457C/16 to C. in C. Med. etc.)
Enemy Units.	2 (? DR) 34.52 N., 26.44 E. (A/C call sign 7 T.H. 1535/16 to Group H.Q., M.E.)

CALEDON .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

CALEDON.	Your 1250/15 (? Item) 3. Please use CALEDON. I have assumed she was still under your command. My 1523/17/6 refers. (C. in C. Med. 1602/16 to C. in C.E.I.)
Malta Raid.	CSR Malta to 1600 hours 16/7. Night 15/16. 14 aircraft over some bombs on land, no damage or casualties.
Tripoli bombed.	Night 15/16, 5 Wellingtons dropped 12 250 lbs. GP. Tripoli Harbour. Many hits and large explosion Spanish Quay, second explosion probably 1 medium M/V alongside. (H.Q. Malta, T.O.O. 1710/16.)
MALAYA.	Intended MALAYA should recommission at Rosyth early in August for service in Mediterranean. Request whether you would prefer her to complete her working up at Scapa or in Mediterranean after proceeding via the Cape. (1st S.L. 1830B/16 to C. in C. Med.)
BARHAM.	On completion of refit BARHAM is to return to Mediterranean, working up on East Indies Station or in Mediterranean as required by C. in C. Med. (1st S.L. 1836B/16 to C. in C. Med.)
Convoy L.E. 25.	Convoy sailing telegram. (1) L.E.25 (2) 1330/16 (3) ? Nil (4) 7 knots (6) (7) (8) (13) as for Port Said Section. (N.C.S.O. Alexandria, 1914C/16 to Admty. etc.) W.D. Note. Appears to be the first L.E. convoy to Beirut.
TORBAY.	Summary of patrol report and sinkings, 28/6 to 15/7. (C. in C. Med. 2054C/16 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
P.33 attack on convoy.	P.33 reports that southbound convoy 12/7 passed out of sight to westward at about 1500. At 1400/15 intercepted northbound convoy of 5 half laden M.Vs escorted by 6 torpedo boats. 1439 fired four torpedoes at two leading M.Vs of 4000 and 7000 tons respectively presenting unbroken target, range of largest and nearest M.V. 2600 yards. Two torpedoes hit at 1' 59" and 2' 08" indicating shallow hits probably on largest ship. Counter attack 3 torpedo boats dropped 116 depth charges. Owing to Q tank flooding P.33 forced to 311 feet causing some damage hull glands, depth charging uncomfortably close but ineffective. P.33 returned and hull leak necessitates docking but damage repair considered slight. (S.O.(S) Malta, 2057B/16 to Capt. S.1.)

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air attack on Messina 14-15/7.	Further my 1.448,15/7. Attack Messina. Photographs 16/7 confirm results. Details of damage. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 2212/16.)
Situation Report 88.	C. in C. Med. 2310/16. Not received in W.R. repetition in 1050/18.
TETRARCH.	On completion your special Mission operate in area between 037° 00' and 038° 30'. Indications are that all traffic is using Corinth Canal and that main merchant ships traffic lane is as in my 2009 (? C)/15. (Capt. S.1. 22290/16 to TETRARCH)
NORBURG. (German)	Departed Istanbul 0700C/16. (Capt.S.1., 2243C/16 to TETRARCH.)

East Indies.

IRIS. (Greek)	Your 0546/15. Arrived Mogadishu 15/7 bunkers empty. (S.O.I. Kilindini 0725Z/16 to S.O.I. Colombo.)
U.S.11A. AUSTRALIA.	On completion fuelling p.m./17 Convoy U.S.11A escorted by AUSTRALIA is to leave Trincomalee for Suez. S. of A. 20 knots. Further orders about time of arrival at Suez will be signalled through escort which may be required to continue as far as Gulf of Suez. Part of convoy may be required to anchor at a selected anchorage in Gulf of Suez. (C. in C.E.I. 0944Z/16 to AUSTRALIA.)
SALWEEN. CORNWALL.	P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1216/10th. Intend SALWEEN to sail from Aden 20/7 for Mombasa escorted by CORNWALL. S.N.O. Red Sea to report time sailing route and S. of A. (C. in C.E.I. 1004Z/16 to S.N.O.R.S. etc.)
New C.in C.	Vice Adm. Arbuthnot hoisted his Flag as C. in C. East Indies in succession to Vice Adm. Leatham at 0230Z/16. Flag of Vice Adm. Leatham will be struck at Sunset today 16th. (C. in C.E.I. 1348Z/16 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

SI KIANG.	My 0419Z/15. SI KIANG arrived Sourabaya 12/7 (cargo). Refused cargo of lubricating oil at my request. Oil fuel not allowed to be delivered on account of lack of money. I learn this morning she sailed for Saigon at 0730Z/14. (C. in C. China, 0327Z/16 to Admty.)
R.C.RICKMERS (German)	Kobe. Departure 14/7. TEIFUKU MARU ex R.C. RICKMERS (564) flying Japanese colours. (Capt. O.S., Singapore, 0351Z/16 to Admty. etc.)
ODENWALD. SPREEWALD.	My 0507/14. ODENWALD 799 and SPREEWALD 818 are in dock. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0718Z/16 to Admty. etc.)
Indo-China.	Your 1247B/14 etc. I am reserving concrete suggestions as regards rubber, cotton and food stuffs till Jouan arrives on 23/7. (C. in C. China, 0729Z/16 to Admty.)
KINDIA. (French)	Left 16/7 Shanghai. (Saigon 0936Z/16 to D. of S.T)

America and West Indies.

SURCOUF.	Your U.K.A.R.M. 680 2135/3. Ship can be accepted probably at Portsmouth New Hampshire. (B.A.R.M. 0120/16 to Admty.)
MENDOZA. FLORIDA.	Censorship reveals that French MENDOZA or FLORIDA E.T.A. Marseilles 6/8 or 7/8 probably from Rio de Janeiro. (C.C.S.O. Trinidad 1134Q/16 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
N.F. Escort Force.	Your 1259Z/15 to R.A.3. Ships will be sailed as requested. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1313Z/16 to C.C.N.F.)

/T.C.12 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

T.C. 12. SAINT FRANCIS has defects which limits her to 20 knots and is unsuitable as escort for T.C.12. HARVESTER is being ordered to leave convoy O.B.343 so as to arrive St. Johns, N.F. not later than a.m./20 and will be available for this duty. (C.C.N.F. 1521Z/16 to C. in C.W.A.)

T.C.12 B. Following is a repetition of my 2017Z/16. Military have been advised troop ships for perhaps 10,000 from Halifax available about (date) agreed by Admty. Urgently request confirmation your proposal and request this sailing be designate T.C.12 B. not T.C.15. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2228Z/16 to D. of S.T.)

Australia.

CAP TARIFA. (French) Arrival. (Port Kembla, 2355Z/16 to D. of S.T.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LADY SOMERS.
RUPERT DE LARRINAGA.

Campsa tanker CAMPECHE bound Bilbao from Texas reports (? having) picked up (? 138) survivors from LADY SOMERS at 0730/15 in 37° 10' N. 20° 42' W. and proceeding 60 miles to S.W. to endeavour to (? save) 60 survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA. In view of difficulties of obtaining release of service personnel if landed Spain and transport difficulties submit interception of CAMPECHE. Am endeavouring to obtain diversion to Gibraltar. (N.A. Madrid, 0959/16 to Admty.)
My 0959/16. CAMPECHE picked up 44 survivors RUPERT DE LARRINAGA at 2040/15 in 36° 15' N. 21° 04' W. (N.A. Madrid, 1035/16 to Admty.)
My 0959/16 and 1035/16. CAMPECHE with 138 survivors LADY SOMERS and 44 survivors RUPERT DE LARRINAGA proceeding Lisbon. Was in 36° 15' N. 21° 4' W. at 2040/15 speed 11 knots. Subsidy arranged minimum delay CAMPECHE as Campsa and Master CAMPECHE have behaved very well. (N.A. Madrid, 1815/16 to N.A. Lisbon.)
Tanker CAMPECHE has about 140 survivors from LADY SOMERS on board. If ship is met they should if possible be transferred and brought into Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2159A/16 to N.A.Stn.)
Cancelled, see 0755/18.
My 2025B/15. CAMPECHE picked up 138 survivors LADY SOMERS at 0730/15 and then proceeded to search for survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA. Endeavour to intercept and take off all British subjects subsequently returning to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2201B/16 to BIDEFORD.)
My 2201A/16. CAMPECHE has also picked up 44 survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA and is probably now proceeding to Bilbao. (F.O.C.N.A. 2351/16 to BIDEFORD.)

ST. ANSELM.
(torpedoed 30/6.)

Ref. N.C.S.I. 69. (A) SAINT ANSELM. (B) 30/6. 0355 G.M.T. 51° 00' N. 26° W. (C) Thrown overboard in lead sheeting well secured. (D) Nil. (E) 2500 fathoms. (F) boats remained vicinity until daylight but submarine not seen to surface. (G) Master. Ship in convoy S.L.78 was sunk by one torpedo hitting aft wrecking lascars accommodation and killing 34 lascars. No other casualties but one boat containing 15 unaccounted for. 18 in masters boat picked up and landed Freetown 13/7. Six hours prior to successful attack one torpedo missed ahead in 30.20 N. 25.50 W. (C. in C.S.A. 1113W/16 to Admty.) (D.S. 680)

/AUDITOR .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.7.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked - Contd.

AUDITOR. (torpedoed 4/7.)

Ref. I.D. form S.A. para 10. (1) AUDITOR. (2) T. and J. Harrison. (3) 4/7, 0400 G.M.T. 25° 47' N. 28° 25' W. (4) (5) and (6) not sighted. (7) ship sunk. (8) one lascar killed, two boats with 16 British, 30 lascars missing. (9) not sighted. (10) One torpedo. (11) Usual outfit. Believed thrown overboard by master. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1707/16 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0600. Reported submarine periscope sighted in position 200 miles due west of Lisbon at 0600 G.M.T./15 by EXCALIBUR. (F.O.C.N.A. 0201B/16 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U-boat dispositions. (25 German, 7 Italian) (D.D.I.C. 1408B/16.)

Submarines Attacked.

By GURKHA, and GARLAND. Have attacked contact in 050° 23' N. 023° 54' W. contact subsequently lost ? am carrying out search with GARLAND. (GURKHA, 0025B/16 to C. in C.W.A.)
My 0025B/16. Consider from intercepted W/T signals at 0146B that U-Boat was very close to (corrupt group) position. Have sailed to locate enemy. Have detached GARLAND to R/V with DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. Am remaining in dangerous zone until daylight search is completed. (GURKHA 0603B/16 to ?)
Search abandoned 0730B, no trace of U-Boat in area, proceeding to join DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. (GURKHA, 0731B/16)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

British Air Operations.

R/C of French Channel Coast.

Information suggests that enemy shipping is routed to pass through the Straits of Dover during daylight under cover of air protection and coastal batteries. Air R/C is to be carried out at dawn and dusk daily between Boulogne and Cherbourg, to obtain data for estimating the probable movements of these vessels during the dark hours.

Offensive Operations

Bomber Command aircraft attacked targets at Hamburg and Boulogne last night. Coastal Command report a direct hit last night on a 3500 ton merchantman 30 miles N.W. of Bergen and a 2500 ton merchant vessel S.E. of Utvoer Light and on a 4000 ton merchant vessel in St. Nazaire Roads today. Early this afternoon an E-boat was damaged by Fighter Command between Calais and Gris Nez.

Mining.

5 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

Mines were detonated off the Tyne and in the Thames Estuary.

Mediterranean.

Libya & Western Desert.

7 Wellingtons last night bombed the port of Derna. 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi, Bomba and Bardia.

/One of.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya & Western Desert. Contd.

One of our destroyers is reported to have been attacked today by enemy aircraft 30 miles north of Mersa Matruh; no details are known. 3 Swordfish operating under A.O.C. Malta attacked Tripoli last night with bombs and also torpedoed amidships a 6000 ton tanker outside the harbour.

As an experiment the minelayers ABDIEL and LATONA, each accompanied by a destroyer, are to run to Tobruk on the night of 19/20 and 20/21, each taking military stores and personnel and bringing back 600 personnel.

Submarines

OSIRIS reports an M.V. set on fire by gunfire a.m./14 West of Cephalonia.

Report of German Destroyers

From the interrogation of a captured German Army Officer it is reported that 2 German destroyers passed Gibraltar about 23/4 and were seen by him at Naples on 24/4.

China.

The U.S. authorities announced Manila and Subig Bays to be mined as from daylight today.

U-Boat Campaign.

U-Boats are suspected of fuelling from German ships at Las Palmas. The Spanish Minster of Marine has ordered special vigilance to prevent this.

S.S.GUELMA reported being torpedoed and gunned at 1700 G.M.T. today in 30° 44' N 17° 33' W. The ship sank later. THUNDERBOLT picked up the crew.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

CASTLETON.
CHARLESTON.
GARLAND.

Adty. 1817B/16. CASTLETON, CHARLESTON, GARLAND will escort FURIOUS from Clyde about 19/7 and will subsequently remain under the orders of C. in C. Home Fleet. (C. in C.W.A. 0953B/17.)

Defence of U.K.

Rosyth.

H.Q.F.C. 2000/17. See Operations Volume.

Movements.

BACHAQUERO.
MISOA.

N.O.I.C. Tyne's 1706/15. Request tank landing ships BACHAQUERO and MISOA may be sailed to Inverarsy as soon as can be conveniently arranged and that special escort may be provided. (D.O.D.(H) 0027B/17 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Adty. 0027/17 and my 1152/16. Act in accordance with my 1152/16. Both ships are not repeat not to be sailed in the same convoy. (C. in C. Rosyth 1143/17 to F.O.I.C. Tyne.)

FURIOUS.

Movements and escort. (C. in C.H.F. 1012B/17.)

Operations.

PRINCESS ASTRID.
PRINCESS J. CHARLOTTE.

Request I may be informed if PRINCESS ASTRID and PRINCESS J. CHARLOTTE can be spared with a complement of 4 Eurekas and 4 A.L.Cs. for operations from Falmouth after they have finished with THRUSTER exercise without interfering with PUMA exercise. (D.C.O. 0143B/17 to V.A.C.T.C.)

N.P. Trawler lines.

2. Until further orders T.R. lines 30, 31, 32 and 33 are to be filled. Remaining available N.P. trawlers are to be stationed midway between these lines and 20 miles to the westward thereby crossing Datum line at 0600 and 2200.
3. Main object of patrol remains unaltered but if a U-Boat is encountered all trawlers within 30 miles are to proceed to hunt. (A.C.O.S.1745/17 to S.O.N.T.) See Correction 1236/18.

TUNA.
TRIDENT.
SOKOL.

Arrangements for proceeding on patrol. (F.O.S. 2024B/17) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command Operations. Attack on Rotterdam 16/7. 17 ships aggregating 97000 tons claimed as destroyed and 5 totalling 3000 tons hit and probably severely damaged. (H.Q.B.C. 0515/17) See Lion Copy.

Patrols. BERT now in operation. TRUST, STAB and STAND will be flown later in the day. (C. in C. Rosyth 1044/17.)
TROST and STAB now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1508/17.)

R/C's required. ASD/75717/7. Information suggests enemy shipping is routed to pass through Straits of Dover during daylight under cover of air protection and coastal batteries. Admiralty require daily R/C's at dawn and dusk between Boulogne and Cherbourg to obtain data for estimating probable movements of these vessels during dark hours. For this purpose speed, course, types and tonnage of vessels is essential. R/C's are to cover this section of shipping route during morning and -evening twilight until further orders. 16 group to communicate results of R/C's direct to V.A. Dover and C. in C. Portsmouth. (H.Q.C.C.1945/17.)

Enemy Air Operations.

W.N.Convoy. Fighters have been sent to assist even numbered W.N. convoy allocated by A.C.O.S. (Lyness W/T 1135/17.)

Mining.

Thames Estuary. Two S.A. Detonated 15/7 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0830/17.)

WINDSOR's 2103B/13. It is considered probable that three of these mines were swept by WINDSOR. (C. in C. Nore. 0923B/17.)

(2) WILLIAM STEPHEN detonated one mine 17/4. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1254B/17.)

Tyne. Detonated one red ground magnetic mine at 0946/17 (position) (P.N.S.O. North Shields 1030/17.)

MOST SECRET.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

German and Italian Main Units. — Positions. (D.D.I.C.0100B/17) See Lion Copy.

BADOUINVILLE. — Now believed to be vessel sighted near St. Nazaire 15/7. (H.Q. 19 Group 1126/17.)

Technical.

Oiling Trials. — Your 0143B/17. Ships available but oiling trial in connection with THRUSTER not carried our owing to Oiler OLIGARCH being withdrawn. Only 4 A.L.C. available without taking from PUMA. (V.A.C.T.C. 1238B/17 to D.C.O.)
My 1238B. PRINCESS CHARLOTTE reports certain defects to dynamo which render her operationally unfit. Repairs should take three days from time of taking in hand. Am asking Glasgow if work can be done forthwith. (V.A.C.T.C. 1648B/17 to D.C.O.
Your 1105B/15. Regret no oiler at present available. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1748B/17 to Adty.)

Casualties and Defects.

SILVERPALM. — Re lifeboat found by CAVE in 062° 08' N. 013° 08' W. on 15/7 8 dead bodies badly decomposed. From papers it appears lifeboat was from SILVERPALM. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1155B/17.)

FERTILE VALE. — Wooden steam drifter FERTILE VALE was sunk in approach to River Tay at about 1413/17 in collision with M.V. EMPIRE VALE who is believed to be undamaged. No casualties. Clear of channel. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1544/17.)

Shipping and Convoys.

S.L.78. — 19 ships have arrived. Convoy was dispersed on 28/6 following attack by U.Bs. Commodore Vice. Adm. Swabey. Cargoes. (D.S. 661 17/7.)

Convoy Diversions. — Admty. 2305B/16. Concur with para. 2, but strongly recommend that same procedure be applied to O.G. and H.G. Convoys, with proviso that in event of F.O.C.N.A. receiving intelligence from his A/S surface and air forces of enemy movements in his area, he has authority to divert convoys as necessary, repeating such diversionary signals to Admty. and C. in C.W.A.

/2 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

Convoy Diversions contd.

2. Observing that O. S/S. L. and O. G/H. G. Convoys are routed for a considerable portion of their passage within North Atlantic Command on approx. similar routes, there would appear to be no reason for differentiation of treatment between the O. S/S. L. and O. G/H. G. Convoys. (C. in C.W.A. 1245B/17 to Admty.)

Milford Haven.

Portions of O.N., O.S. and O.G. Convoys, instructions re R/V with Liverpool portions. (C. in C.W.A. 1550B/17 to N.C.S.O. Milford Haven.) See Lion copy.

Sweepers to remain with motor ships.

Admty. 2212/13/12/40. Recent experience has shown that ships are safest when they follow as closely as possible after the passage of the sweepers. Unless it has been established that motor vessels can pass at minimum navigable speed over an acoustic mine without usually detonating it, it is considered that such vessels should remain with the convoy under all circumstances, and not reduce speed at the Sunk as ordered in A.M. referred to. (C. in C. Nore. 1654B/17 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CAMPECHE. N.A. Madrid's 0959/16. CAMPECHE should be intercepted if this can be done without interfering with "SUBSTANCE" movements. (D.O.D. (F) 0126B/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

WEST POINT, CARVALHO ARAUJO. Are not to be intercepted. (F.O.C.N.A., 1619B/17 to N.A. Stn).

PASTEUR. On return from Gibraltar to U.K. PASTEUR will be escorted and may be filled with any personnel or refugees requiring passage to U.K. PASTEUR should return to Clyde. (D.O.D. (F) 1807B/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U/B Fuelling. Las Palmas 1810/14. Minister of Marine has ordered special vigilance to prevent any fuelling of U. boats from German ships at Las Palmas. Watch situation and report any development. (N.A. Madrid, 1900/17 to Consul, Las Palmas).

Cables. Your 1052/6. A break has occurred in Gibraltar - U.K. No. 4 near Gibraltar. Messages for U.K. from Gibraltar have therefore to be passed via Lisbon. Intend that MIRROR after completing repairs in Azores area should repair this break before carrying out remainder of work outlined in my 1052/6. (F.O.C.N.A., 1918B/17 to Admty).

P.32. Departure in accordance with my 1636B/14. V.A. Malta 1201B/14 has been passed to her. (F.O.C.N.A., 2030B/17 to C. in C. Med.)

Bombs on La Linea. 13/7. My 7216 of 13/7 on aerial activity previous night. Established that more than one of the bombs on La Linea were in fact parachute mines (details). Madrid reports Italian Air Attache in Madrid has apologised for Damage caused though Italian Wireless referring to one of the later raids has stated that the planes were unidentified and inferred that Italy was not involved. My 7253 of 15/7, plane alleged to have come down near Les Barrios is now stated to have been Spanish and to have been out on trial. (Gov. Gib., 2158/17 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

CRITON (sunk 21/6.)	My 1549N/5. Letter referred to in S.O.(I) Freetown's 2331/15 was smuggled out. Further information through Free French suggests CRITON was sunk by an Air France Tender which are known now to be fitted with one or more torpedo tubes and are employed as torpedo boats and sometimes on escort duty. (C. in C. S.A., 0021/17 to Admty).
SANDY HOOK MARGRETHE BAKKE.	Overdue shipping. Cancel my 1412/15 SANDY HOOK not proceeding Capetown. Ship was MARGRETHE BAKKE which arrived 10/7. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1220Z/17).
KOS 7 KOS 10 KOS 11.	Arrived Lagos 17/7. Defects. Repairs essential time 8 days. Approval requested. (Dir. of Nigerian Marine, Lagos. 1510Z/17 to C. in C. S.A.)
CHATEAUROUX.	Your 1949B/15. CHATEAUROUX sailed from Port Gentil 16/7 expected Freetown 24/7. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1612N/17 to Admty).
NORDERNEY (German) STELLA PAMPANO (Italian).	My 1132/9. Same source states German NORDERNEY delayed sailing in view of report by German plane of a small warship off the port Pernambuco reports Italian STELLA has come alongside to load July 15th and Italian PAMPANO completed discharging 14/7. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1616N/17 to Admty).
Convoy Escorts.	A.M. 1550B/10. Do you intend Freetown A/S escorts of a S.L. convoy subsequently to proceed to Bathurst for re-fuelling and to leave Bathurst as necessary to meet and escort an O.S. Convoy to Freetown? (A.C.N.S. (T) 2014B/17 to C. in C. S.A.) Reply 1555/18.
BABITONGA HERMES captives.	My 1255N/11. (prisoners from BABITONGA) Intend sending whole party of 42 to U.K. in CANTON together with survivors from HERMES (CANTON's 2256Z/10 refers). (C. in C. S.A., 2037N/17 to Admty).
VILLE D'ORAN CHENONCEAUX	My 1508/7 and my 2131/13 VILLE D'ORAN reported returned Tamatave, CHENONCEAUX reported ordered back.(A.2). (C. in C. S.A., 2143N/17 to S.A. Stn).

/R.D.F.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

R.D.F. reception, Freetown. GALATEA while escorting W.S. 9 B. to Freetown reports that composition, bearing and range of Freetown local destroyer escort was obtained. Ceiling use of reliable D.F. may therefore reveal position of own force to enemy unit fitted with R.D.F. Request information and experience in (? home waters). (C. in C. S.A., 2231N/17 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

JERSEY. JERSEY delayed, departure Port Said section will be one hour late at R.V. R.A. Alexandria pass to COVENTRY KANDAHAR and 201 Group. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 0601C/17 to C. in C. Med).

D.7 D.S.1. R/V with me at NET 1215/18. KIPLING and HAVOCK are to transfer orders for exercise to remainder of screen. Keep steam for 22 knots and for full speed half an hours notice. (B.S. 1., 1018C/17 to Capt. D.7. etc).

Benghazi bombed. Night 15/16. 16 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour. 8 Magnetic mines also laid. 1 Wellington bombed Bardia. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1044/17).

PARTHIAN. Capt. (S)1's 1430C/4 PARTHIAN will be ready to sail 21/7. Intend to load her with stores for Malta and sail her for U.K. calling at Malta on passage. (C. in C. Med., 1129C/17 to Admty).

Repatriations. (Italian) Negotiations for repatriating 60,000 Italian civilians from Ethiopia and Italian East Africa. (1st S.L. 1219B/17 to Cs. in C. Med., E.I., and S.A., F.O.C.N.A.) See Lion Copy.

Italian Fleet. Dispositions, from photographs, etc.(V.A. Malta, 1327B/17 to C. in C. Med). See Lion Copy

German Destroyers Naples. From capture (corrupt group) of German Army Officer it appears 2 German Destroyers passed Gibraltar about 23/4 and were seen by him at Naples on 24/4. (S.O.(I) Med., 1725Z/17 to S.O.(I) Gib).

/ILEX.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

ILEX. F.O.C.R.I.N.'s 07352/11 and R.A.D. Med's 1111/13 boiler defects in ILEX cannot be made good in any port in India. When ready ILEX should be sailed for Simonstown where defects will be investigated and arrangements made for their repair. (D.O.D. (F) 1727B/17 to C. in C. Med).

COVENTRY and convoy, Syria. Assume E.T.A. 0530/18. An H.M. Ship will lead convoy through obstructions. Pilot will be provided off entrance. Berth will be signalled on arrival. (N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1741/17 to COVENTRY).

Middle East Iraq and Iran. Appreciation of threat. C.O.S. no. 147. (1st S.L. 1755/17 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

Supplies for Tobruk. As a trial ABDIEL with one destroyer is to be run to Tobruk during night 19/20. and LATONA with one destroyer during night 20/21. Minelayers to take up stores and personnel as required by military and to bring back 600 personnel each. The minelayers and destroyers may leave Tobruk independently but should be in company by dawn. (C. in C. Med., 18010/17 to R.A.D., Med., etc).

TRANSYLVANIA. Roumanian Liner has embarked at Istanbul staff German Embassy from Russia. Reported B.2. she will sail next 24 hours for Trieste. Speed ? probably 20 knots. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1815/17 to S.O.(I) Med., etc).

PERTH. Following programme intended. (C. in C. Med., 18250/17 to Admty).

Risk to Troopships Suez. C. in C. Med., 2127/15. From point of view of enemy action I consider monster liners should lie at Ashrafi anchorage as Abu Zenima is only 60 miles south of Suez. M. of W.T. concurs. Request you will direct ships of W.S. 9 A 2 and U.S. 11 A to proceed to Ashrafi. S.N.O. Red Sea is required to order MAURETANIA IIE DE FRANCE NIEW AMSTERDAM to arrive Suez at daylight 21st 22nd and 23rd respectively.
(S.B.N.O. Suez, 19130/17 to C. in C. E.I. S.N.O.R.S

/FORMIDABLE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

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COVENTRY and convoy, Syria. Assume E.T.A. 0530/18. An H.M. Ship will lead convoy through obstructions. Pilot will be provided off entrance. Berth will be signalled on arrival. (N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports, 1741/17 to COVENTRY).

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TRANSYLVANIA. Roumanian Liner has embarked at Istanbul staff German Embassy from Russia. Reported B.S. she will sail next 24 hours for Trieste. Speed ? probably 20 knots. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1815/17 to S.O.(I) Med., etc).

PERTH. Following programme intended. (C. in C. Med., 18260/17 to Admty).

Risk to Troopships Suez. C. in C. Med., 2127/15. From point of view of enemy action I consider monster liners should lie at Ashrafi anchorage as Abu Zenima is only 60 miles south of Suez. M. of W.T. concurs. Request you will direct ships of W.S. 9 A 2 and U.S. 11 A to proceed to Ashrafi. S.N.O. Red Sea is required to order MAURETANIA ILE DE FRANCE NIEW AMSTERDAM to arrive Suez at daylight 21st 22nd and 23rd respectively.
(S.B.N.O. Suez, 19130/17 to C. in C. E.I. S.N.O.R.S

/FORMIDABLE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

FORMIDABLE — Following programme intended (Alexandria to Norfolk, VA). All armaments efficient, ship cannot anchor and should not exceed 22 knots due to structure weakness.
(C. in C. Med., 2103/17 to Admty).

Situation Report 89. — AJAX, LEANDER and destroyers covering convoy L.E. 25 due to arrive Beirut a.m./18.
2. Western Desert. No further news of A 10 which may still be afloat.
3. Canal Zone. NEPTUNE being passed through. HOBART and KIPLING have arrived at Alexandria.
4. OSIRIS reports M.V. set on fire by gunfire a.m./14 west of Cephalonia P.33 reports successful attack on northbound convoy Kerkenah area p.m./15 Two hits. P.33 heavily depth charged and slightly damaged has returned to Malta. Request these operations be not reported
(C. in C. Med., 2123C/17 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

17.7.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

IRIS. — Cancel my 0546/15, IRIS arrived Mogadishu 15/7. (S.O.I. Colombo, 0504Z/17, to Admty etc.)

AUSTRALIA U.S.11A. — Following is a repetition of my 0540/16. Arrival Trincomalee 0030Z/16 AUSTRALIA with convoy U S 11A. (S.O.I. Colombo, 1116Z/17, to Admty etc.)

C.M.14. EXETER. — My 1440/12. (i) Request anticipated time and date of sailing and s. of a. of group "B" Convoy which will be called C.M.14. Intend EXETER to escort C.M.14 from Durban to Aden. (Route). (C. in C. E.I., 1234Z/17, to F.O.I.C.Simonstown.)

China.

D'ARTAGNAN. (French.) — Your 0853/15. Telegram 151 ARFAR based on Secret report evidently faulty. 1st. Sentence of telegram is inaccurate and should be disregarded. (Head of M 0206B/17 to C. in C. China.)

Indo-China. — Saigon telegram 134 to F.O. Pingaud stressing necessity of early release of opium. I agree with Consul General at Saigon in recommending promise despatch of oil simultaneously with signing of U.S. rubber contract. (C. in C. China, 0507Z/17 to Admty.)

French Ships. — Departure 16/7 D'ARTAGNAN Shanghai 20/7. Departure 17/7 MARECHAL JOFFRE Haiphong 19/7, FRANCOIS L.D. Saigon 20/7. (Manila 0620Z/17 to M. of W.T.)

Malaya Navigation Restriction. — Following regulations are now in force on the east and west coasts of Johore and the coast of Pahang Kelantan and Terangganu. Between sunset and sunrise no merchant vessels are to enter or anchor within territorial waters. Vessels already anchored during daylight may remain during darkness. (R.A. Malaya, 0811Z/17 to China Stn., etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.7.41.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Auxiliary Aircraft Carriers.	Following from B.A.S.R. Ref. my 1145R/10. Navy Dept.,now state first ship being converted will not be ready till November. (B.A.D., Washington, 1030R/17, to Admty.)
Belle Isle Route, Ice.	In view of casualties in AURANIA's convoy and report that Belle Isle Strait is nearly blocked by large bergs consider this route should not be used for convoys until ice clears. (R.A.3, 1143P/17 to Admty.) Warning to shipping. (N.S.H.Q. Canada, 2115Z/17.)
Exchange of U.S.Information.	Orders to interchange information on Far East affairs have been issued to Observers and Naval Attaches at Chunking, Shanghai, Tokyo,Bangkok Batavia, Sandakan, Singapore, Canberra, Wellington, Peiping, Colombo, Port Darwin, Suva. (A.L.U.S.N.A., 1401/17, to Admty.)
Ships detached from O.B.343.	Request you will obtain from HARVESTER names of ships detached from O B 343 who proceeded through Belle Island Straits and report to Adty. (C. in C. W.A. 1710B/17. to F.O.I.C. St. Johns.)
Spanish Ships, Bermuda.	Am informed by Governor, Bermuda, that vessels of Spanish Line Companie Trasatlantica are to call at Bermuda Eastbound. Are these ships calling to land mails in accordance with the terms of their ships navicert or for some other reason? (C. in C. A.W.I., 1756Q/17, to Admty.) Reply: 1916/19.
Vichy Convoy.	Dakar, 4/7. (A.O). Following ships left in convoy for Northwards 12/7:- SAINTE LUCILE (ex SKOTFOSS), SAINTE GERMAINE (ex HADRIAN) ST ALAIN (ex DERDATOFT) in ballast; OUERGHA, WYOMING, PORT SAINT LOUIS, PIERRE CLAUDE with unknown cargo; BOURGES with 1000 tons rubber; and CARTHAGE which carried De Gaullist sympathizers. MIN arrived same day from Indo-China. (B.A.D. Washington, 1810R/17, to Admty.)

/NEWCASTLE.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

NEWCASTLE. Can a definite date for arrival NEWCASTLE now be given? Request ship be instructed to arrive at 2000 Z 5 time and pick up pilot at Finns Ledge buoy.
(B.A.R.M. 1957/17, to Admty.)

Convoy Signals. Your 1515Z/8. Admty., convoy ROUTE signals are now being passed to you and in future a separate signal will be made from Admty., giving estimated position of convoy at noon on first day at sea and estimated speed of convoy in weather conditions prevailing.
(D.T.D. 2012B/17 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

EASTERN CITY. Due Father Point A.M./18 for orders. M. of W.T., states that ship is C.A.M and orders are to load flour Montreal. Should ship be diverted to Halifax for landing and servicing aeroplanes?
(N.C.S.O. Montreal 2255Z/17 to Admty.)
Reply 1912/18.

New Zealand.

DOMINION MONARCH. Details of Royal N.Z.A.F. Personnel taking passage, on 21/7.
(N.Z.N.B. 1035M/17 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.41.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

DESIGNER (torpedoed 8/7.) — British, 5945 tons, reported torpedoed and sunk, position not yet reported; may be N., or N.W., of Azores. Had sailed from Mersey on 30/6 for Table Bay and had been in O.B.341.(D.S.,681,17/7.) Schooner SANTA PRINCESSA arrived at Oporto 16/7 with 7 survivors (6 Lascars 1 white) of DESIGNER, picked up 10/7 near Azores. DESIGNER had been torpedoed 8/7. (N.A., Lisbon, 1324/17 to Admty.)

INVERNESS survivors. — Your 0932/16 not to Admty., my 1634/15. Survivors ship was INVERNESS. (N.A. Lisbon, 1231/17, to F.O.C.N.A. amended 1615/18.) INVERNESS, British, 4897 tons, German broadcast claims torpedoed and sunk on 9/7. From Liverpool for South Africa with military stores, had been in O.B. 341. (D.S., 682.)

Unknown Ship. — Following has been read. SSSS de Unknown Station. Submarine sighted presumed position 58° 41 N., 30° 20' W., at 0120 G.M.T. from Wick Radio. (Liverpool W/T, 0140/17.)

VIGRID (torpedoed 24/6.) — E.T.A. 2000. Have 7 survivors from VIGRID torpedoed in approx., 054° N., 042° W., on 24/6, all for hospital suffering from exposure. Amongst them 2 officers and 2 American Red Cross Nurses. (KEPPEL, 1059B/17 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry, C. in C. W.A. 1654B/17 to Admty.)

LADY SOMERS RUPERT DE LARRINAGA. — My 2159A/16 and my 1017B/17 CAMPECHE expected Lisbon P.M./17 from 036° 15' N., 021° 04' W., also has on board 44 survivors from RUPERT DE LARRINAGA. LADY SOMERS' survivors are to be taken off first. (F.O.C.N.A., 1111B/17 to IMPERIALIST, LOCH OSKAIG.)

/GUELMA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.7.41.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

GUELMA. Following intercepted by Portuguese naval Wireless Station Funchal: GUELMA torpedoed and gunned in 30.44 N., 17.33 W., at 1700 G.M.T.
(N.C.S.O. Funchal, 1746/17, to S.O.I. Gib., Gibraltar W/T, no T.O.O./ 17.)
British, 4402 tons, bound from Clyde for Azores in ballast in O.B. 33Z. (D.S., 682.)
? U-Boat in 030° 44' N., 017° 33' W., at 1700 17th G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1916B/17 to THUNDERBOLT.)
My 1916 B 17 GUELMA torpedoed and sinking at 1700/17 (position). Proceed to assist and take on board as many of crew as possible directing remainder to nearest land.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2002A/17 to THUNDERBOLT 2152B/17 to N.A. Stn.)

AUDITOR. (torpedoed 4/7.) My 1707/16 S.S. AUDITOR. The 2 missing boats have now arrived at St. Vincent. All Officers and crew accounted for except 1 Lascar known to have been killed.
(N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1850/17 to Admty. etc.)

ANSELM (torpedoed 5/7.) Amendments to CATHAY's 2130/6 for missing other ranks. Total survivors arrived Freetown number 1053.
(C. in C. S.A., 2233N/17 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0016. At 0016 G.M.T. German S/M Bearing 298/2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0131B/17 to N.A. Stn.)
F.O.C. N.A.'s 0131B/17. By D/F, German U/Boat at 0016/17 G.M.T. was in the vicinity of 50° 00' N., 35° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 0733B/17 to N.A. Stn.)

2250Z/16. By D/F at 2250Z/16 in 026° 45' N., 020° 40' W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0351B/17 to N.A. Stn.)
Estimated U/B Dispositions. (24 German, 6 Italian).
(D.D.I.C. 1400/17.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy coastal batteries fired 16 rounds between 0102 and 0122 today during the passage of Convoy C.W. 42. The convoy was uninjured. One soldier was wounded on South Foreland; no other damage or casualties are reported.

British Air Operations.

3 Blenheims were despatched today to attack a 6,000 ton ship off Gravelines. The ship was hit and was later reported to be aground. All three Blenheims crashed.

Enemy Air Operations.

East Coast.

Hull was attacked last night.

Convoy E.C. 47 called for help off Cromer in the early hours of this morning and was attacked again this evening in 52° 54' N., 2° 5' E. No damage is reported other than casualties from M.G. fire in S.S. STOCKPORT.

S.S. EMERALD QUEEN (481 tons) was damaged by a near miss in the early hours of today in 54° 39' N., 0° 48' W., and was towed to Tees Bay.

VIMIERA reported Convoy F.S. 45 being bombed at 2335 today in 55° 9' N., 1° 15' W. No details are known. Convoy F.N. 94 was attacked off Blyth at 2346. No damage has been reported.

Western Approaches.

S.S. PILAR DE LARRINAGA was damaged when convoy O.B. 346 was bombed this morning in 54° 23' N., 16° 53' W. WESTCOTT reports that the aircraft, a F.W. was shot down, and that she herself sustained slight damage whilst alongside PILAR DE LARRINAGA, extinguishing fires.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Air Attack on Palermo. 5 Wellingtons last night dropped 20,000 lbs. of bombs on Palermo Naval Base where enemy cruisers and destroyers are reported to be. A smoke screen effectively prevented observation of results. Photographs taken on 19/7 showed that all warships had left except, significantly, two cruisers.

Western Desert. Wellingtons bombed Derna and Bardia last night.

Some damage was caused today at Mersa Matruh by enemy air attack.

PERTH has left for Australia.

Alexandria Raid. About 20 A/C attacked Alexandria last night.

Cyprus. About 4 enemy A/C bombed Nicosia today, causing no service damage or casualties. 1 A/C was shot down into the sea by a Hurricane.

Beirut. Convoy L.E. 25 arrived today after being covered by AJAX, LEANDER and destroyers and escorted by COVENTRY. The last named relieved CARLISLE, which is returning to Alexandria.

N.O.I.C. Syria reports the state of Beirut Harbour as satisfactory. A Naval Control Service, Examination Service and Sea Transport Service are now in operation.

Submarines. TETRARCH at 2226C/18 reported her special mission completed.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

Vichy S/Ms. French S/Ms based on Diego Suarez are reported to have received orders to attack any British or Free French ship intercepting a convoy in Madagascar area. Tactics to be adopted by intercepting ships are laid down in C. in C. East Indies 11422/18.

America & West Indies.

There have been no results up to date from the search for suspicious fishing craft reported off Newfoundland Banks. (see 13/7).

U-Boat Campaign.

A Russian communique today, states that a German submarine has been mined and sunk in Varanger Fiord, N.W. of Rybachi Peninsula.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

LONDON W.S. 10. — LONDON to join Home Fleet. Re sailing and escort of .W.S. 10 (D.O.D. (H) 0116B/18) See Operations Volume.

Surface vessels not to attack submarines in given area. — Cancel my 2011/5. Request 421 AZ. 8/7 may be cancelled. (A.C.O.S., 1011/18 to Admty).

Swedish Tankers. — Positions. 0001/18. (N.A. Stockholm, 1240/18 Scapa W/T 1540B/18).

NORDSTJERNAN (Swedish). — Your 1547/17. Route. Re notice of sailing. (D.O.D. (H) 1601/18 to N.A. Stockholm.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Air Defence Organisation. — Urgent Russian request for information. (No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow 1650/18 to War Office). See Lion Copy.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Rosyth. — H.Q.F.C. 2000/17 do you agree? (Air Min. 1500/18 to Admty).

Rosyth A/A Defences. — Admiralty 1355B/29. Particular reason for increase in defence will end shortly but other ships and cruisers will be constantly in Dockyard for several months to come. (2) In view of this and requirements for anti invasion reinforcement request arrangements made for increase in A.A. gun defences may continue. (D. of L.D. 2332B/18 to Air Ministry.)

Movements.

ADVENTURE. — Movements. (D.O.D.(H) 0118B/18) See Operations Volume. Admty 0118B/18 intend to sail at 0830/19. (ADVENTURE 1304B/18).

FURIOUS. — Intend to sail FURIOUS at 0430B/19 for D.L.T. in Firth of Clyde thence to proceed about 1900B to Scapa to arrive p.m. 20th after carrying out further practice on passage. CHARLESTOWN and CASTLETON will be sailed by N.O.I.C. Greenock to Sturrock at number 7 channel buoy and N.O.I.C. Londonderry is requested sail O.R.P. GARLAND to R/V in 000° Altacarry Head 5 miles at time to be signalled by FURIOUS. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2356B/18 to A.C.O.S.)

H.M. Ships Sunk or Damaged by Enemy Action- Contd.

Date	Name	Type	How Damaged or Sunk.	Position
7.7.41.	M.L. 108	M.L.	Slightly damaged	Mine, Humber Coastal Channel
8.7.41.	HEROINE	H.M. Trawler	Damaged	A/C Thames Approaches
9.7.41.	DECOY	Destroyer	Slightly damaged	A/C off Libya
10.7.41.	CELANO	Motor Boat lent to TEDWORTH by L'pool and Glasgow Salvage Assn.	Sunk	Mine Clyde
10.7.41.	M.M.S. 3	Minesweeper	Damaged	Mine Liverpool
11.7.41.	DEFENDER	Destroyer	Sunk	A/C Western Desert.
Night 10/ 11.7.41.	H.S.L. 116	H.S.L.	Damaged	A/C Yarmouth.
12.7.41.	BRACON DENE	M/S Trawler	Damaged	Mine Humber
12.7.41.	AIGLON	M/S Trawler	Damaged	Mine Humber
14.7.41.	GLENEARN	Special Service Vessel	Damaged	A/C Suez
15.7.41.	PRINCE PHILIPPE	M.V. Special Duty.	Sunk	Collision 55° 5' N., 5° 24' W.
15.7.41.	LADY SOMERS	O.B.V.	Sunk	U-Boat 37° 12' N., 20° 32' W.
15.7.41.		Lighter	Sunk	A/C Western Desert
Reported 15.7.41.	VENDETTA	Destroyer	Slightly damaged	? A/C Tobruk.
16.7.41.	M.G.B. 90 M.G.B. 92	M.G.Bs.	Destroyed by fire.	Accident at Portland

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 18.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

C.W. 42 shelled — Enemy coastal batteries fired 16 rounds between 0102 and 0122/18 during passage of C.W. 42. Four fell in Dover Harbour ten to seaward and two on South Foreland near A.A. gun site wounding one soldier. No other damage or casualties reported. Main body of convoy was well past Dover. (V.A. Dover, 0939B/18, 0958B/18.)

N.P.Trawler Lines. — Correct my 1745/17 para. 2 after Datum Line to read at 2300 and 1700 allowing a speed of 7 knots. (A.C.O.S., 1236/18 to S.O.N.T.)

P.31 — P.31 reports "Consider patrol area promising." (F.O.S., 2126B/18 to Admty.)

H.43 — Return Londonderry on completion of operation "Brock" p.m./19. (Capt. (D) Londonderry, 1450B/18 to H.43.)

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C. — Help Mission - One A/C position 277 Bun 6. C. and S. of convoy 020°, 8 knots. (CAMPION, 0120B/18.)
Help 043 DUN 10 C. and S., 328° 7 knots. (Rosyth W/T 0130/18.)

EMERALD QUEEN. — Damaged in engineroom by near miss in 54° 39' N. 00° 48' W. has been towed by PUFFIN assisted by tug to Tees Bay. Both vessels will proceed into Hartlepool at daylight. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0415/18.)

PILAR DE LARRINAGA. — Bombed by F.W. Aircraft in 054° 23' N., 016° 53' W. Am putting out fire on bridge. 4 K. 2 W. No survivors from F.W. Aircraft which was shot down. (WESTCOTT 1100B/18.)
Am escorting PILAR DE LARRINAGA who is proceeding under own steam. Tug required at Swansea. Whilst alongside extinguishing fires using own hoses WESTCOTT sustained slight hull damage. No danger. Remainder of escort and PERTH are rejoining convoy. (WESTCOTT, 1601B/18.)

Convoy E.C. — Enemy aircraft are attacking an E.C. Convoy. 52° 54' N. 2° 5' E. (WIDGEON 1942/18, 1950/18.) My 1940. Two attacks five bombs dropped each attack. No hits. (LUDLOW, 2000B/18.)

Convoy F.S. — PARALLEL 55° 9' N. 1° 15' W. Enemy are bombing. (VIMIERA, 2335/18 SLEIPNER, 2346/18.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation D.3.8. WELLS and ST. MARYS detailed. (R.A.(M) 1544/18).

Casualties and Defects.

AZALEA. Delayed at Londonderry by defects. Intend to sail her with O.S.1. on 24/7 with orders to proceed to Gibraltar. (C. in C. W.A. 1104B/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

HORTENSIA. Departure KROOMAN at 1535B to assist A/T HORTENSIA disabled off Scroby Elbow buoy. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1545B/18).

ANDAVARA. 16 survivors Newfoundland Schooner ANDAVARA landed Iceland today. All crew rescued uninjured Schooner sunk. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1558/18).

M.L. 151. Motor launch No. 151 is returning Yarmouth with two ratings very seriously burnt with C.S. acid. (QUORN 2215B/18).

UMPIRE. UMPIRE is dropping astern convoy to effect engine repairs estimated to take all night to complete. Have detailed BASSET to stand by her. (LUDLOW, 2301B/18 to C. in C. Nore).

Shipping and Convoys.

Coastal Convoys 2 day Cycle. Following is a repetition of my 1519/17. Your 1115/15. Your co-operation in proposals for a 2 day cycle appreciated. Understood Admty are appointing Commodores for the whole trip Portsmouth Bristol Channel and return. (ends) (C. in C. Plymouth, 1013/18 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

W.S.10. See Policy.

H.X. S.C. Convoys. S. of A. When adequate N.F. and Eastern R/V A/S escort is available it is intended to allow the even numbered H.X. and S.C. convoys to make the whole passage at normal speed of advance. Request your remarks as to when this may be implemented. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1243/18 to C. in C. W.A.

T.C.12. A.M. 1743B/9. Ships are required to disembark at the ports indicated. (D.O.D.(H) 1738/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Motor.....

H.M. Ships Damaged or Sunk by Enemy Action-Contd.

Date	Name	Type	How Damaged or Sunk	Position
26.6.41.	TRANIO	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Cromer
27.6.41.	OYSTERMOUTH CASTLE	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Lowestoft
27.6.41.	LOCH ERIBOLL	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C of Humber
27.6.41.	WELSBACH	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Humber
27.6.41.	LOCH LEVEN	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Humber
28.6.41.	FORCE	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Cromer
29.6.41.	WATERHEN	Destroyer	Sunk	A/C off Libya
30.6.41.	FLAMINGO	Sloop	Damaged	A/C off Tobruk
30.6.41.	CRICKET	Gunboat	Damaged	A/C off Tobruk
30.6.41.	M.T.B. 5.	M.T.B.	Destroyed	Accidental Explosion at Dover.
1.7.41.	DEVON COUNTY	M/S Drifter	Sunk	Mine Thames Estuary
1.7.41.	MALVERNIAN	O.B.V.		A/C Western Approaches
3.7.41.	RECEPTIVE	Boom Drifter	Sunk	Mine Thames Estuary
4.7.41.	AKRANES	M/S Trawlers	Sunk	A/C off Flamborough Head
5.7.41.	SHAFFELL	Paddle M/S	Sunk	A/C Tyne
5.7.41.	HOLDERNESS	Destroyer	Damaged	Off Flamborough Hd.
5.7.41.	TRIUMPH	Submarine	Slightly damaged	Shore Battery Rastayones
6.7.41.	JENNIFER	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C Humber
7.7.41.	LOUIS BOTHA	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C Humber
7.7.41.	LORD ST. VINCENT	A/P Drifter	Sunk	By mine off Harwich

/M.L. 108.....

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

Motor Ships and Mines.	A.M. 2212/13/12. In the light of experience the instructions to motor coasting vessels to reduce engine revolutions to the extent of having to part from convoy are cancelled. It is considered that ships are safest when they follow as closely as possible after the sweepers. Other safety considerations in connection with acoustic mines are contained in T.D. Memo. D/1/005 of 11/7 to N.C.S.O.'s. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1920B/18 to Cs. in C. Nore, Rosyth).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Convoy Diversions.	Admty., 2305B/16 and C. in C. W.A.s' 1245B/17. Present system of diverting Convoys appears satisfactory but recommended that I should be given authority to divert Convoys as necessary in my command if information available to me locally indicates this advisable. (F.O.C.N.A. 0012B/18 to Admty.)
H.G.68.	Departure WISHART BEVERLEY SCARBOROUGH LEYLAND LADY HOGARTH LADY SHIRLEY CLYDE escorting H.G.68. (S.O.I., Gib., 0802B/18 to Admty etc.)
French Convoy.	Passings 17/7. Westward LA MARSA VOLUNTAIRE full JAMAIQUE LORRAIN L'OBSTINE in ballast. (F.O.C.N.A., 1023B/18 to Admty.)
AUGUSTUS ROMA (Italian.)	Reported from Genoa 13/7 recently docked for scraping expected to sail with troops before long. Tanker movements increased. Neutral source C 2. (S.O.I. Gib., 1204B/18 to C. in C. Med. etc.)
Enemy Unit.	German Unit D/F bearing (?295°/3 from Middlehill made an enemy sighting report at 1018 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1251B/18 to N.A. Stn.) See also U/Boat Campaign.
VIRGO FIDELIS. French.	Bilbao reports sank off Monte Igueldo San Sebastian 0030 G.M.T./11. She was over loaded with iron ore and struck a rock. (N.A. Madrid, 1255/18, to Admty.)
French Prisoners.	Message from French N.A. re treatment of crews of INDO-CHINOIS, CHIUNGI and ESPERANCE. (N.A. Madrid, 1745/18 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
CHURCHILL.	(?Your 1814B) My P.C. and S., are 035° 58'N., 012° 44' W., 090° 10 knots E.T.A. 0700/20 15% fuel remaining. (? CHURCHILL, 1825/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)
French Convoy.	Sighted 2 French merchant ships approx., 1200 tons laden escorted by armed trawler, P.C. and S. 037° 00' N., 009° 07' W., 345° 7 knots. (LOCH OSKAIG, 2050B/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Convoy Escorts, Freetown.	Your 2014/17. This is the intention but for economical use of available forces it will be important that movements of OS Convoys shall be co-ordinated with those of SL Convoys. Corvettes of Freetown escort force are required for many other patrol and escort duties. (C. in C. S.A., 1555N/18 to Admty.)
Walvis Bay Defences.	Your 2306/29 12/40. Union Authorities state plans for 6" fixed defences at Walvis Bay approved and construction work is now in hand. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1855B/18 to Admty.)
O.S. S.L. H.G. O.G. Convoys. Diversion.	Admty 2305/16. I agree but assume that I may divert convoys as required to avoid dangers in South Atlantic area although at the time of diversion convoy may actually be North of this as diversion is often necessary some way away from actual danger. In the case of diversion of S L convoys E or W of Verdes, Admty., has been consulted first if time permits as diversion to this extent affects time on passage and route further North. Hitherto Admiralty have diverted S L convoys as required when N. of about 20 N. Will they continue to do so, or C. in C. W.A.? (C. in C. S.A., 1855N/18, to Admty., Amended 1053N/19.)
W.S.9.B.	Re suggestion to pass inside Agulhas minefield if possible to avoid bad weather outside owing to deck cargoes and stability, proposals. (C. in C. S.A., 2035N/18, 2037N/18 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

Hospital Ships.	Your 1700/14. Confirm SAN GUISEPPE not now recognised. Reference to GRADISCA not understood as she is included in para. 2 of my 2038/22 amongst ships which have been recognised as bona fide hospital ships. (Head of M. 0010B/18 to C. in C. Med.)
GEORGIC (bombed 14/7.)	Fleet salvage officer reports total loss. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 09530/18, to C. in C. Med.)

/Libya.....

H.M. Ships Damaged or Sunk by Enemy Action-Contd.

Date	Name	Type	How Damaged or Sunk	Position
26.6.41.	TRANIO	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Cromer
27.6.41.	OYSTERMOUTH CASTLE	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Lowestoft
27.6.41.	LOCH ERIBOLL	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C of Humber
27.6.41.	WELSBACH	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Humber
27.6.41.	LOCH LEVEN	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Humber
28.6.41.	FORCE	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Cromer
29.6.41.	WATERHEN	Destroyer	Sunk	A/C off Libya
30.6.41.	FLAMINGO	Sloop	Damaged	A/C off Tobruk
30.6.41.	CRICKET	Gunboat	Damaged	A/C off Tobruk
30.6.41.	M.T.B. 5.	M.T.B.	Destroyed	Accidental Explosion at Dover.
1.7.41.	DEVON COUNTY	M/S Drifter	Sunk	Mine Thames Estuary
1.7.41.	MALVERNIAN	O.B.V.		A/C Western Approaches
3.7.41.	RECEPTIVE	Boom Drifter	Sunk	Mine Thames Estuary
4.7.41.	AKRANES	M/S Trawlers	Sunk	A/C off Flamborough Head
5.7.41.	SNAEFELL	Paddle M/S	Sunk	A/C Tyne
5.7.41.	HOLDERNESS	Destroyer	Damaged	Off Flamborough Hd.
5.7.41.	TRIUMPH	Submarine	Slightly damaged	Shore Battery Rastadones
6.7.41.	JENNIFER	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C Humber
7.7.41.	LOUIS BOTHA	A/P Trawler	Damaged	A/C Humber
7.7.41.	LORD ST. VINCENT	A/P Drifter	Sunk	By mine off Harwich

/M.L. 108.....

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

Libya bombing.	Night 16/17. 7 Wellingtons bombed Derna Port, 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Bomba and Bardia. (H.2. R.A.F. M.E. 1023/18.)
Palermo bombed.	5 Wellingtons attacked Palermo Harbour night 17/18/7. Bombs were dropped on 4 (?) Cruisers and 6 Destroyers in berths. Smoke screen very effective and obscured many results. (H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1030/18.)
Situation Report 88.	Following is a repetition of my 2310/16. CARLISLE and base party entered Beirut 0830/16. Convoy L E 25 with M.T. and petrol escorted by COVENTRY KANDAHAR. JAGUAR left Alexandria today 16 and leave Port Said a.m./17 for Beirut (ii) Canal Area. HOBART and KIPLING have been passed through Canal now on passage to Alexandria. (ends). (C. in C. Med., 1050/18, to Admty.)
MALAYA WARSPITE	C. in C. Med. 1226C/18. See Mediterranean Volume.
BARHAM.	C. in C. Med. 1228-C/18. See Mediterranean Volume.
"GLEN" Ships.	Your 1103/1. Desired that one GLEN ship should return to U.K. as soon as possible. If GLENROY is a serviceable unit GLENGYLE should be sailed when ready for U.K. via the Cape. (V.C.N.S. 1231B/18 to C. in C. Med.)
Armistice Commission.	Rear Adm. Baillie Grohman arrives Beirut by air p.m./18, acting as Naval Adviser in connection with all matters affecting the Armistice Commission. (C. in C. Med., 1252C/18 to H.O.I.C. Syria.)
Cargo Carrier.	My 1155C/3. Reports from C.s in C. China and E.I., indicate that SHUNTIEN? would meet requirements of fast cargo carrier in Mediterranean if she can be made available. It is desirable she should have British H F 1. (C. in C. Med., 13346/18, to Admty.)

/DERNA.....

H.M. Ships Sunk or Damaged by Enemy Action-Contd.

Date	Name	Type	How Damaged or Sunk.	Position
15.6.41.	ILEX	Destroyer	Seriously damaged	A/C off Saida.
17.6.41.	M.T.B. 22.	M.T.B.	"	Mine off Sunk Buoy.
17.6.41.	M.G.B. 71.	M.G.B.	Damaged	Mine off Grimsby.
17.6.41.	MOORDALE	R.F.A.	Very slightly damaged.	A/C Portsmouth
17.6.41.	ARCTIC PIONEER	A/S Trawler	"	"
18.6.41.	KUJAWIAK	Destroyer (Polish)	Slightly damaged	A/C Rosyth-Scapa.
19.6.41.	VANESSA	Destroyer	Damaged	A/C 52° 54' N. 1° 34' E
20.6.41.	LORD ASHFIELD	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Peterhead
20.6.41.	RESMILO	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Peterhead.
21.6.41.	ARROW	Destroyer	Damaged	Mine, off Flamborough Head.
22.6.41.	BEECH -	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C Scrabster, Orkneys.
22.6.41.	VISENDA	H.M.Trawler	Damaged	Gunfire from S/M Northern Approaches.
23.6.41.	NOGI	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/c off Cromer.
23.6.41.	PYTCHLEY	Destroyer	Damaged	Mine, off Flamborough Head.
23.6.41.	ADVANCE	Air-Sea Rescue Vessel	Probably Total Loss	Fire. Off Shoreham.
23.6.41.	WARSPITE	Battleship	Slightly damaged	A/C at Alexandria
24.6.41.	AUCKLAND	Sloop	Sunk	A/C off Western Desert.

/TRANIO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

DERNA. (Italian.)	Arrival 18/7 DERNA Genoa. (Barcelona, 1400/18, to M. of W.T.)
Transport of Prisoners.	Requesting increase in numbers of prisoners which may be carried in one ship from Mideast, Red Sea Ports, Aden and E.African Ports to India South Africa or Australia and that guard may be reduced to 7 per cent in case of Italian O R prisoners. (Cairo, 1420/18, to Admty.)
TRANSYLVANIA Roumanian.	Speed 20 knots, reported leave Istanbul 18/7 for Adriatic. (Capt. S.I, 1503C/18 to TETRARCH.)
TORDONN. HEKTOR VI.	A.M. 1112 of 9/3. Allocation of TORDONN and HEKTOR VI is cancelled. They are being retained by S.D.F. in South Africa. (D.A/S.W. 1740/18 to C. in C. Med.)
PARRACOMBE.	British, struck mine 2/5 off Cape Bon. Re letters from survivors in French hands. (N.A. Madrid, 1745/18 to Admty.) See also North Atlantic.
Malta Raid. Gerbini. Augusta. Palermo. bombed.	Night 18/7. 6 aircraft. Small bombs in isolated areas and sea. No damage or casualties. Offensive, two Fulmars Aerodrome patrol Sicily night 17/18 4 X 20 lbs dropped on Gerbini. 2nd Fulmar 4 X 20 lbs. bombs on Augusta. 5 Wellingtons dropped 20,000 lbs. S.A.P. bombs at Palermo Naval Base night 17/18. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1830/18.)
Vichy Ships in Turkey.	Your 1233/13 British ships mentioned have not been reported in any Turkish port. No further French ships arrived at Iskanderun since 10/7. Total is now 11. Names follow, 9000 tons tanker ADOUR (believed fully laden, has suffered bomb damage); 630 tons tanker GLUS; sloop ELAN; patrol vessels DJEBEL SAMIN, JEAN MIC, and 80 tons coast patrol vessel MASSAHALT; 500 tons trawler LA VAILLANTE; 250 tons minesweepers AVOCETTE and LE CID; tugs MARIUS, CHAMBON, and MARSEILLAIS III. Total personnel 11 officers and 336 men, now interned. Disembarkation of munitions etc., has been completed, but Turkish military remain on board and do not permit close observation. (N.A. Angora, 1833/18, to C. in C. Med.)

/Beirut.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Beirut. Beirut is established as a defended port as defined by C.B.01618 (O)40. Responsible officer is N.O.I/C Syrian Ports. N.C.S., and examination Service are in operation. (C. in C. Med. 1844c/18.)

TETRARCH. Special mission completed. (TETRARCH, 22260/18 to Capt. S.I.)

Situation Report 90. Convoy L E 25 at Beirut. CARLISLE returning to Alexandria having been relieved by COVENTRY. N.O.I.C. Syria reports state of Beirut harbour satisfactory. Underwater defences will require repairs. 800 tons coal but no oil or petrol. Adequate harbour facilities and quay undamaged. N.C.S., and Sea Transport Service now incessant. Skepon examination service and Port War Signal Station at Ras Beirut now in operation.
(ii) Canal zone. NEPTUNE on passage Port Said to Alexandria.
(iii) Alexandria. Battle Fleet at sea 18/19 for exercises. PERTH has left for Australia.
(iv) Western Desert. Supply of Tobruk holders and A lighters continue. A 10 now considered (? lost).
(C. in C. Med., 23180/18 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

French S/Ms.	Escorting Vichy ships in Madagascar area. Tactics of intercepting ships. (C. in C. E.I., 1142Z/18). See Lion Copy.
CALEDON.	N.C.S.O. Colombo's 1308/17 (N.T. in W.R.) Para 5 cancel last sentence. CALEDON will relieve AUSTRALIA and escort Convoy to Gulf of Suez. (C. in C. E.I., 1502Z/18 to Admty, S.N.O. Red, Sea.)
Troop Transport.	Understood that 23rd Nigerian Brigade can be embarked at Berbera in DUCHESS OF BEDFORD and ORDUNA about 27/7 if escort can be provided. Request your remarks re escorts. (D.O.D. (F) 1659B/18 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A.)

China.

LE COMTE DE LISLE, GOUVERNEUR GENERAL MAURICE LONG.	Arrival 17/7. (Saigon, 0203Z/18 to M. of W.T.)
Raiders.	Impression that German raiders in Pacific are not welcomed by Japanese Naval Authorities and are understood to have been withdrawn. (N.A. Tokyo, 1118/18 to Admty).
Indo-China.	My 2027/14. Suggestion to be made to Decoux re disposal of his ships should Japanese move into Indo-China. (1st Lord, 1257B/18 to C. in C China). See Lion Copy.
NYTTA MARU, fuel.	Japanese S.S. NYTTA MARU due Hong Kong about 26/7 has applied A.P.C. for 1120 tons oil fuel. A.P.C. state London office concur in supply. Ship is proceeding Japan. Propose investigating bunkers on arrival and if sufficient for Japan withholding supply notwithstanding ship holds warrant. (Comm. Hong Kong, 1725I/18 to C. in C. China).
WARSPITE.	Following from WARSPITE 0130Z/18. Departure from Manila to Honolulu (Ends) (Consul, Manila, N.T.O. /18 to Admty).

H.M. Ships Sunk or Damaged by Enemy Action-Contd.

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17.6.41.	ARCTIC PIONEER	A/S Trawler	"	"
18.6.41.	KUJAWIAK	Destroyer (Polish)	Slightly damaged	A/C Rosyth-Scapa.
19.6.41.	VANESSA	Destroyer	Damaged	A/C 52° 54' N. 1° 34' E
20.6.41.	LORD ASHFIELD	M/S Trawler	Damaged	A/C off Peterhead
20.6.41.	RESMILO	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/C off Peterhead.
21.6.41.	ARROW	Destroyer	Damaged	Mine, off Flamborough Head.
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22.6.41.	VISENDA	H.M.Trawler	Damaged	Gunfire from S/M Northern Approaches.
23.6.41.	NOGI	M/S Trawler	Sunk	A/c off Cromer.
23.6.41.	PYTCHLEY	Destroyer	Damaged	Mine, off Flamborough Head.
23.6.41.	ADVANCE	Air-Sea Rescue Vessel	Probably Total Loss	Fire. Off Shoreham.
23.6.41.	WARSPITE	Battleship	Slightly damaged	A/C at Alexandria
24.6.41.	AUCKLAND	Sloop	Sunk	A/C off Western Desert.

/TRANIO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 18.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

T.C. 12.	May be desired that some ships of T.C. 12 be ready to sail again from U.K. by about 12/8. Request investigate with Masters of ORION, EMPRESS OF CANADA, STRATHMORE and STRATHNAVER whether this can be done. (D. of S.T. 0208B/18 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
FORT DE FRANCE.	My 1012Q/14. FORT DE FRANCE believed to be still at Para. Probable will remain there until question of trade between French West Indies and South America is settled. Proceed Trinidad to refuel and await further instructions. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1012Q/18 to PRINCE DAVID).
"R" Report 5/7.	Ascertain whether Yugoslav ANTE MATKOVIC originated raider distress message transmitted at 1450 G.M.T. /5 in 01° 18' S., 30° 00' W. If so why? (D.D.I.C. 1116B/18 to Treasurer St. Lucia.) See also 1000/19.
NEWCASTLE.	Your 1957/17. NEWCASTLE is now expected to arrive U.S.A. towards end of August. C. in C. S.A. is requested to instruct NEWCASTLE to arrive at 2000Z + 5 and pick up pilot at Finns Ledge Buoy. (D.O.D. (F) 1217B/18 to B.A.R.M., C. in C. S.A.)
SURCOUF	Your 2242Q/28. Can be accepted probably at Portsmouth New Hampshire. (D.O.D. (F) 1246B/18 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
TORONTO CITY.	Admty 2355Z/5. Agent reports now 5 days overdue. (C.C.N.F., 1435/18 to Admty).
Suspicious fishing Craft off N.F.	My 1838/13. SKEENA returned from patrol with nothing to report. RAMSEY sails 0030Z/19 for further search returning to St. John's N.F. a.m./22. (C.C.N.F. 1436Z/18 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Belle Isle, Ice.	GALT reports ice conditions in Belle Isle Straits are that Northern Passage is badly blocked by bergs and growlers and Southern passage is clear of heavy ice. Recommend Cdres. of H.X. 140 and S.C. 38 be given discretion to choose either N. or S. passage depending on conditions at the time. (C.C.N.F., 1501Z/18 to Admty).

/Ref.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Belle Isle, Ice. - Contd. Ref. R.A. 3 1143P/17 request your remarks regarding route of H.X. 140 and S.C. 38. (D.T.D. 1504B /18 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

U.S. Liaison. Australian Govt. is unable to spare an officer for liaison duties with C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet. We have therefore obtained concurrence of C. in C. China and A.C.N.B. to appointment of Commander Parry for this duty. (V.C.N.S. 1642B/18 to B.A.D. Washington, N.A. Washington).

T.C. 12. Following are intended disembarkation ports. (D.S.T., 1737B/18 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

SCHIE. Have you any news of Dutch SCHIE from Loch Ewe due 9/7? (D.T.D. 1751B/18 to N.C.S.O. Willemstad.) Reply: No. (S.N.O. Curacao, 1552QR/18).

WIPUNEN. Request present position Finnish WIPUNEN and confirmation that Norwegian named Simon Sundby is on board. Norwegian Authorities New York anxious to prevent him reaching Norway and will take action when above information obtained. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1828Z/18 to Admty) Reply, 1820B/21.

EASTERN CITY (C.A.M. ship). Your 2255Z/17 M. of W.T. unable to load EASTERN CITY Halifax and have arranged load grain instead of flour St. Lawrence. After loading ship to proceed to Halifax for servicing aircraft and for convoy. (D.T.D. 1912B/18 to N.C.S.O. Montreal).

LORRAIN (French). French motor tanker LORRAIN arrived from Casablanca 18/7. (Galveston, 2337Z/18 to D.N.I.)

Australia.

US.12 As Commonwealth Govt. wish to reinforce Australian troops in Malaya without delay intend to proceed as in my 0831Z/14. (A.C.N.B., 0218Z/18 to D. of S.T.

AORANGI. In view of N.Z.N.B.'s 1240/16 request confirmation that you will undertake fitting of AORANGI. (D.S.T., 2111B/18 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LADY SOMERS (torpedoed 15/7)
RUPERT DE LARRINAGA (torpedoed 14/7)

Cancel my 2159A/16. (F.O.C.N.A. 0755B/18 to N.A. Stn).
My 1111B/17. Survivors have been landed. Resume Patrol. (F.O.C.N.A., 0753B/18 to IMPERIALIST, LOCH OSKAIG).
135 survivors of LADY SOMERS in British PROCRIS and 43 survivors of RUPERT DE LARRINAGA in LOCH OSKAIG and IMPERIALIST E.T.A. Gibraltar 1800A/19. (LOCH OSKAIG, 1110B/18 to F.O.C.N.A. amended 1601B/18).

SILVERPALM.

Dutch trawler CAVE reports finding lifeboat with 8 dead bodies about 160 miles W. of Faroes. SILVERPALM, British, 6373 tons, had previously been presumed lost after being overdue in Clyde on 14/6 from Freetown, which she left 31/5. (D.S. 682).

INVERNESS (torpedoed 9/7) Survivors.

Your 1158/18. not to Admy. My 1231/17 name of ship now corrected to INVERNESS. (N.A. Lisbon 1615/18 to F.O.C.N.A.).

GUELMA (torpedoed 17/7).

Your 2002B/17, have entire crew of 43 on board. My P.C. and S. of A. at 2000B/18, 031° 44' N. 016° 07' W. 076° 9.3 knots. (THUNDERBOLT, 2255Z/18 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Submarines Reported.

A/C and Trawler sent to investigate C.1 report of U/B. in Dyrafiord 065° 54' N. 023° 36' W. at 2300Z/17. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1216/18 to Admy. C. in C. H.F).
My 1216/18. Further investigation of submarine probably a Whale. (A.C.I.(C) 1625/18).

1018.

German unit D/F bearing 295/3 from Middlehill made an enemy sighting report at 1018 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1251B/18 to N.A. Stn.).
My 1251B/18 D/F bearings of same unit confirmed U-boat at 1050 G.M.T. and 1109 G.M.T. were in each case 288/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 1353B/18 to N.A. Stn.).

/Estimated.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.7.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported-Contd.

Estimated U/B dispositions. (25 German, 6 Italian) (D.D.I.C. 1417B/18).

1000. SATURNUS reports U-boat surfaced at 1000B/18 in 61° 51' N. 10° 06' W. and dived immediately course 170°. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1900B/18 to A.C.O.S). (A.C.O.S. 1945B/18 to O. and S. Command)

1307Z. Submarine sighted by A/C at 1307Z/18 in 053° 19' N. 040° 23' W. steering 070°. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1626Z/18 to Admty. etc.).

In view of your having been shadowed it is anticipated U-boats may endeavour to attack you tonight or tomorrow. (C. in C. W.A., 2119B/18 to ST. ALBANS, WELLINGTON).

You may find a fox about 0615 and you have a good pack of hounds. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2259/18 to KRAKOWIAK).

2235. Following has been read:- SSSS 2235 G.M.T. S/M sighted in 48.37 N. 38.25 W. from NERK. (Halifax W/T, 2306Z/18).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

UMPIRE. (sunk)

The S/M UMPIRE, which had dropped astern of Convoy E.C.47 at 2301B/18 to effect some engine repairs, collided at about 0140B/19 with A/S Trawler PETER HENDRIKS (escorting Convoy F.S.44) in 53° 9' N. 1° 8' E. and sank. The C.O. and 14 Ratings were picked up by WOLSEY.

The sailing of ADVENTURE for a R/V off Cape Gorodetski was postponed today for 24 hours owing to the non-arrival of parachutes.

F.O.S. requests that an investigation and report should be made by Captain Menzies into the general suitability of the American S. and R. class S/M's for service in the Royal Navy.

British Air Activity.

4 M/V's aggregating 22,000 Tons are reported to have been destroyed by Bomber Command A/C at Noon today in an escorted convoy off the Hague and a further 4 M/V's aggregating 26,000 Tons at 1533 in a convoy off Nordeney, making a total 48,000 Tons destroyed. Three M/V's aggregating 9,000 Tons are claimed also to have been damaged during these attacks, and one Reporting Ship to have been destroyed.

Beauforts of Coastal Command claim to have damaged by machine gunfire a small merchant ship south of Alsboen Light, Norway.

There is a further report today that serious damage was caused to the GNEISENAU by air attack in May.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

LONDON intercepted today the Vichy French ILE D'OUESSANT, Baltimore for Casablanca in 37.34 N., 15.17 W., but after boarding released her, the ship's Navicert being in order.

The French ISAC was reported intercepted and with her engine sabotaged today in 35° N., 9° W., and BEVERLEY is towing her to Gibraltar. Tug ST. DAY is being sent to take over the tow. (Ship arrived at Gibraltar 21/7. Damage done through sabotage is not serious.)

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

C. in C. Med. reports no naval damage at Tobruk in spite of continued extensive shelling.

4 Naval Swordfish operating under A.O.C. Malta bombed Tripoli harbour today. A near miss was registered on a merchant ship outside the port.

UNBEATEN reports having attacked by gunfire on 15/7 two laden 500 ton schooners anchored in Marsa Zuaka roadstead, (Gulf of Sirte) One was left sinking and the other badly damaged. Two M.A.S. were encountered and avoided 2 hours later.

Alexandria Raid.

A further air raid on Alexandria harbour in the early hours of today by 14 to 20 planes which dropped 14 bombs and 2 mines. Caused no naval damage.

NEPTUNE.

From South Atlantic Station, is to join 7th C.S. She replaces LEANDER.

/Turkish .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Turkish shipping. The Turkish Govt. have issued a decree that Turkish shipping, other than postal services in the Sea of Marmora, is to proceed only in daylight, remaining in harbour each night.

Cyprus. Operation "Welfare", transport of 50th Div. and R.A.F. units to Cyprus, has begun.

Owing to congestion in Famagusta, VULCAN (depot ship, 10th M.T.B. Flotilla) and BRITISH BOTWOOD are to be based at Haifa. The Yugoslav M.T.B's are to return to Alexandria.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish Tankers. My 1240/18. Positions at 0001 today. (N.A. Stockholm 1056/19.)

Surface vessels not to attack S/M's in given area. Cancel A.M. 421 A.Z. (D.O.D.H. 1111B/19.)

NIGER. SALAMANDER. HALCYON. Your 0207B/12. Request information when these ships will be ready. (C. in C.H.F. 1517B/19.)

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. RAMILLIES. Unless circumstances alter considerably intend ROYAL SOVEREIGN should relieve RAMILLIES in Iceland in August. On relief RAMILLIES is to proceed to Liverpool. Intend RAMILLIES should remain in U.K. for 3 weeks. (A.C.N.S.H. 1802B/19.)

North Sea and Bay of Biscay areas. A.L.M/PD 09584/41 of 22nd May, Apendices 1 and 2.
1. North Sea area is extended to include the waters of the Greenland and Barents Seas north of 69° N. lying between the meridian of Greenwich and 32° E.
2. Bay of Biscay area is extended to 12° W. between 44° 15' N. and 49° N. Ships definitely identified as Spanish should not be attacked in this extension.
3. Full amendment is being issued by letter. (A.C.N.S.H. 1806B/19.)

PEGASUS. On completion of next trip PEGASUS is to cease operational duties and resume training duties being based on Belfast for this purpose and administered by F.O.I.C. Belfast. (A.C.N.S.H. 1848B/19.)

Vessel as S/M Tender. Your 1226B/8 and F.O.S. 1219B/16. Regret GLEN STRATHALLAN is not available as she will probably be required shortly for experimental work. My 2002/7/4 refers. (D.A.S.W. 1932B/19 to C. in C.W.A.)

/NORDSTJERNAN .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy - Contd.

NORDSTJERNAN. (Swedish) — Ship sails definitely 0500/21. Route will be through Skopen but might differ slightly from that furnished by N.A. If more definite information is obtained it will be telegraphed to British Consul. (Gothenburg 2200/19.)

4th Escort Group. — One destroyer of 4th escort group is to remain in Iceland. Ship detailed is required for special escort duty sailing from Iceland about 24/7 and should arrive about 29/7. (C. in C.W.A. 2350b/19 to BOADICEA.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

U.S.A. Submarines. — Adty. 1613B/17. Asking for report on the general suitability of American 'S' and 'R' Classes for service in Royal Navy. (F.O.S. 1937B/19 to B.A.S.R.)

Defence of U.K.

Rosyth A/A Defences. — Your 1500/18. See my 2352B/18. (D. of L.D. 1929B/19 to Air Ministry.)

Movements.

FURIOUS. — Sailed in accordance with my 2356B/18. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0523B/19.)
My 2356B/18 and 0522B/19. Sailing of FURIOUS for Scapa delayed until p.m./20. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1748B/19.)

EURYALUS. — Sheerness departures EURYALUS, WORCESTER, and CATTISTOCK at 1027. E.T.A. May Island 0600/20. (C. in C. Nore. 1056B/19 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

MALAYA. — Admty's 1950B/30/6 and 1743B/9. In view of congestion in Clyde and to save unnecessary steaming would prefer if MALAYA could be met at a convenient R/V and escorted direct to Rosyth, fuelling if necessary at Scapa. Request you will report whether you can arrange this, using destroyers working up at Scapa. (A.C.N.S.H. 1357B/19 to C. in C.H.F.)

/ADVENTURE .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy - Contd.

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/ADVENTURE .....

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

ADVENTURE. (Head of Naval Mission, Moscow 1515C/19) ADVENTURE's 1304B/18. Sailing is postponed for about 24 hours owing to non arrival of parachutes. (D.D.O.D. M. 1850B/19) [See Operations Volume.]

Operations.

M.T.B's. to leave Dover. Provided that the necessity for their concentration at Dover no longer exists, propose to sail M.T.B.'s for their respective bases a.m./20. (V.A. Dover 0754B/19)
Your 0754B/19. Approved for M.T.B.'s to return to their respective bases a.m./20. (A.C.N.S.H. 1028B/19 to V.A. Dover).

British Air Activity.

Patrols. Two Rover Patrols by Beaufort A/C in operation (one) in vicinity Stadlandet (two) in Skaggerak. (C. in C. Rosyth 0546/19).
STAB and BERT now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1702/19).
Patrol STAND in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2112/19).

812 and 817 Squadrons in FURIOUS. Owing to weather No. 812 Sqdn. (FAA) and No. 817 Sqdn. (FAA) could not carry out deck landing training in ARGUS. Am now doing this in FURIOUS but standard is very low. Have already had 3 crashes and at least 36 hours more practice required on deck landing training alone. Propose to continue in approaches to Clyde until p.m./20 and practicing Sqdn. landing on passage Monday. Further delay may occur in testing and timing W/T equipment whose fitting has only been completed since embarkation. (FURIOUS 1305B/19 to C. in C. H.F.) Your 1305B/19 Approved. (C. in C. H.F., 1551B/19 to FURIOUS.)

/Escort.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity - Contd.

Escort for EURYALUS. C. in C. Nore's 1216/18. Ship arrives off May Island 0600/20 and then proceeds to carry out various trials in swept channel North of Montrose, returning to Rosyth on completion. Request fighter escort may be provided from daylight/20 as ship is newly commissioned and not worked. (C. in C. Rosyth 1610/19.)

M/V's off St. Nazaire. Two M/V's in 47° N. 2° 40' W. bearing 220° 2 miles approx. course 270°. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive and estimate no hits. (A/C Duty A. 1910/19 to St. Eval.)
2500 tons each. (A/C Duty A. 2055/19 to 19 Group H .Q.)

Enemy Air Activity.

F.W.A/C claimed shot down. NORMAN PRINCE claims to have destroyed F.W. Aircraft a.m./18. (ST. ALBANS 0555B/19.)

PILAR DE LARRINAGA. (Bombed 18/7) Re bringing her into Belfast (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1107B/19, 2018B/19, N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1717B/19, C. in C.W.A. 1945B/19.)

Convoy W.N. Even. Fighter protection is being sent to the aid of even numbered W.N. Convoy. (Rosyth W/T 2234/19.)

Convoy F.S. Odd. Fighter protection is being sent to the aid of odd numbered F.S. Convoy. (Rosyth W/T 2256/19.)

Mining.

Operation S.N.21 B. Intend to carry out operation S.N.21 B. as follows by TEVIOT BANK and SCOTT on 22/7. Particulars. Request Air Escort 22/7. (R.A.M. 1141/19.)

Harwich. At 0950/19 one Red Mine detonated by Sweeper. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1543B/19.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

UMPIRE. sunk. Instruct WIDGEON to stand by UMPIRE till repairs are completed. LUDLOW pass to UMPIRE. (C. in C. Nore 0055B/19 to LUDLOW.)
UMPIRE has been rammed and sunk by Trawler PETER HENDRICKS in 053° 09' N. (?001°) 08' E. Details of rescue attempts. C.O. and 14 ratings picked up. (WOLSEY 0140B/19, 0405/19, 1030B/19, 1151B/19, F.O.I.C. Yt. Yarmouth, 0500B/19 C. in C. Nore, 0459B/19, 0745B/19, 0830B/19, 1131B/19, 1145B/19. F.O.(S) 1009B/19, 1136B/19.)

HORTENSIA. My 1545B/18. HORTENSIA in tow of KROOMAN entered Harbour 1805B/18. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1130B/19.)

DISTOL. Slight damage by motor lighter SHELL MEX 6 at Hamble. (Dockyard, Portsmouth 2052/19.)

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.10. My 1730/18. Vessels including those from Liverpool and those embarked at Gourock will now remain at Tail of the Bank until (date). All vessels should be kept topped up with fuel and water on basis previously indicated. (D.S.T. 0130B/19 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland etc.)

H.X.156. Congratulations on again bringing safely to U.K. all the ships in your convoy.
(C. in C.W.A. 1547B/19 to Rear Adm. H.H. Rogers.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.21.	Has been ordered to keep N. of 039° 25' N., while on Patrol. (Capt. S.8, 0941B/19 to UTMOST.)
French Shipping.	French Eastward FORT DE VAUX PENERF KEROMAN all full. (V.A.C.N.A. 1043B/19.)
THUNDERBOLT, with GUELMA survivors.	Your 22552/18. My 1208B/14 amend time (? at) position G to 1500A/21 reporting if unable to comply within two hours. Escort is one M.L. T.b.r. area arranged from 010° 00' W., 10 miles either side your route. Identifying flares are not to be used in these areas to identify yourselves to A/C. You may however make A/C challenge letters to confirm friendly challenge of A/C. (F.O.C.N.A., 1138B/19 to THUNDERBOLT.)
French Shipping.	"Arrival 17/7 COURDOOLES (?COURDANNES) MARIE GABRIELLE, PRESIDENT LAVIT". (Bilbao 1248/19.)
WEST POINT.	U.S. Transport repatriating enemy consuls and manned by naval crew may pass you night 19/20 (course). Has safe conduct and is not to be intercepted. (D.O.D.(F) 1723/19 to ESPERANCE BAY.)
ILE D'OUESSANT. Vichy French.	Boarded in 037° 34' N., 015° 17' W bound for Casablanca from Baltimore. Navicert in order. ship released. (LONDON, 1745B/19 to (F.O.C.N.A.)
ISAC (French.)	Following received from WISHART via escorting aircraft (begins) French ship ISAC engine sabotaged BEVERLEY towing to Gibraltar. Position 270 (270) 35° N., 9 W. 4 course Gibraltar direct. "Ship made her position by W/T." (ends). ST. DAY is being sent to take over tow. (F.O.C.N.A. 1956B/19 2112B/19 to Admty.)
INVERNESS Survivors.	A.M 1918B/16 and 1923B/18. Request following arrangements be made and that I may be kept informed:(F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 2048B/19.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ERLANGEN (German.)

Buenos Aires reports ERLANGEN apparently finished loading and now idle. Two Norwegians reported left Mar Hilo Plata 17/7 in despatch vessel ALTAIR fuelled for fishing trip. Understand whilst at sea will send out wireless signals to supposed British warships with intention of keeping ERLANGEN in port, assuming ERLANGEN will be listening in. This is supposed to be on instructions from British Admty. (Ends.)
Report unassessed.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 0105Z/19, to R.A.S.A.D.)

S.S.PULASKI.

In W.S.9B is most unsuitable for trooping through tropics. Details.
(C. in C. S.A. 0759Z/19. to Adty.)
Reply: 0505/22.

D'ENTRE-CASTEAUX.

At request of Union Authorities and in view of congestion at Capetown, D'ENTRECASTEAUX sailed Capetown 18/7 for East London arriving 22/7 where she will be requisitioned.
(N.O.I/C Simonstown 0950Z/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

Norwegian Whalers.

Departure 18/7 six Norwegian Whale Catchers under command of Lieut. Comm. Knudsen R.N.N. Due Capetown 1/8 Vessels may have to call at Walvis Bay for fuel.
(Dir., Nigerian Marine, 1025Z/19 to Admty.)

IRENE S.
EMBIRICOS.
SOPHOCLES.

Overdue shipping, due Durban 14th from Fremantle. Due Capetown 15th from Karachi, both not arrived.
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1132B/19, to C/S Singapore etc.)

Free French and Vichy French Ships.

B.N.L.O. reports S.N.O., F.N.D.L. in A.F.L. offered Free French warship PRESIDENT HOUDUCE to shadow Vichy GASCON (?7000 tons) sheltering Lobito to report movements. (?My reply) gratefully accepted offer and ship is being sent. Request defined policy re Free French ships taking Vichy ships in prize.
(Spears Mission, Brazzaville 1358/19 to C. in C. M.E.)

ALCANTARA.

Request ALCANTARA on completion of present duties may proceed Plate area via K 33 C, reporting E.T.A. in L.32 when in K 33 C in order to give impression that patrol is being maintained in Northern area.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1736Z/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

/NEWCASTLE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

NEWCASTLE A/C. — Your 1723N/13. Request if available one Walrus A/C for NEWCASTLE may be sent from Freetown in BIRMINGHAM.
(NEWCASTLE, 1754z/19 to C. in C. S.A.)

VIMY. — C. in C. W.A. 0930/10. Request when VIMY may be E.T.A. Freetown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1757N/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

C.M.14. — Your 1234/17. Anticipate convoy C.M.14 will sail from Durban p.m./22.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1903Z/19 to C. in C. E.I.)

Fuelling S.America. — Your 1349/13. Not possible to conclude arrangements for special stocks for H.M.Ships until discussions now proceeding with U.S.A. re supplies to South America have progressed further. Report details anticipated requirements during next few weeks.
(D. of S. 2046B/19 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

W.S.9A. — Following are disposal instructions for personnel ships.
(D.S.T. 0129B/19 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

Merchant Shipping. — Movement Summary No. 39. (Capt. O.S.Alexandria, 03090/19.) See Lion Copy.

LEANDER KINGSTON. — C. in C's 1109C/17. LEANDER and KINGSTON leaving Haifa 220300/19 E.T.A. Port Said 0500C/20. Request Outer Channel Buoys lights from 04300/20. E.T.A. Port Said about 12000/20? E.T.A. Famagusta 23000/20.
(F.O.7 C.S., 0857C/19, to N.O.I.C.s Port Said, Famagusta.)

Air raid on Alexandria. — Air raid 0330 to 0515. 20 planes bombs and mines. Civil damage.
(R.A. Alexandria 09510/19.)

/Cyprus.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Cyprus.

Owing to congestion in Famagusta VULCAN and BRITISH BOTWOOD should be based at Haifa. The Yugoslav M.T.B's are to return to Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med., 1015c/19 to F.O.T.C.S.)

Nicosia bombed.

Cyprus. 18/7. About 4 Ju. 88's bombed Nicosia area. No service damage or casualties. Hurricane shot down 1 Ju. 88 into sea.

Derna, Bardia, bombed.

Western Desert. Night 17/18. 3 Wellingtons bombed Derna. 5 Wellingtons bombed Bardia.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1026/19.)

UNBEATEN. schooners attacked.

Expected Southbound convoy passed UNBEATEN 2 miles to Westward about 1830/12 and must have kept close to Kerkenah. Expected Northbound convoy which was later attacked by P 33 at 1430/15 S. of Pantellaria was not sighted. UNBEATEN, patrolled near 033° 23' 012° 58' during 14/7 and cannot have left Tripoli (Africa) via A or D towards Kerkenah. At 2000/15 UNBEATEN surfaced off Marsa Zuaqa and opened fire on two laden 500-ton schooners anchored in Roadsteads. 15 hits 12 pounder on first, left sinking, five hits observed on second badly damaged. Enemy R/C plane arrived 15 minutes after ceasing fire and two M.A.S. were encountered and avoided two hours later.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1220B/19 to Capt. (S) 1.)

Turkish Shipping.

Turkish Govt., have issued decree that all Turkish Shipping, postal services in Marmora excepted, is to proceed only in daylight, remaining in harbour each night. For passenger steamers first stage in Black Sea is Zonguldak, second Sinope. Aegean bound vessels leave Dardanelles at dawn and arrive Smyrna same day. Cargo vessels will be instructed by Port Authorities Istanbul.
(N.A. Angora 1307/19.)

AJAX.

R.A.D. Med. 1102/20/5. My 0125B/11/6 and your 2158C/12/6. Is it intended that AJAX should be sent out of the Mediterranean for repairs?
(D.O.D. (F) 1355B/19 to C. in C. Med.)

NEPTUNE.

Is to join 7th Cruiser Squadron.
(C. in C. Med., 1414/19 to Med. Station.)

/TRANSYLVANIA....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 19.7.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

TRANSYLVANIA BESSARABIA. (Roumanian.) Indications preparing for Aegean. Watching closely. (S.O.(I) Istanbul 1740/19.)

ILEX. F.O.C.R.I.N. 0735Z/11. Intend sailing ILEX 20/7 for Aden and onward passage to Calcutta. Details of repairs. (C. in C. Med., 22180/19 to Admty.)

Situation Report 91. Syria. Operation "WELFARE", transport of 50th (? Div.) and Air Force units to Cyprus has commenced. Material of first flight consisting of 20th H A Battery and 80 fighter Squadron left /18. Personnel following in H.M. Ships leaving Port Said (? a.m./21. F.O.C. 7th C.S. with 2 cruisers 4 destroyers at Haifa. COVENTRY and auxiliary vessels at Beirut.
Alexandria. Battle Fleet has (corrupt group) harbour. Air Raid night of 18/19 (see A.S. Malta 0951/19), no naval damage.
Western Desert. No naval damage reported at Tobruk in spite of continued extensive shelling. (C. in C. Med. 22450/19 to Admty.)

Cargo in Troop Transports. S.T.O. Durban's 0923/15. Presume in view of situation in Suez that you consider loading of cargo in vessels such as MAURETANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, and ILE DE FRANCE as most undesirable. If this is confirmed S.T.O. Durban should not in future load any cargo in these ships and should restrict the amount of equipment loaded to the minimum. (D.S.T., 2257B/19, to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

SI KIANG	Arrival 19/7. (Saigon 0436/19.)
French Ships.	Arrival 19/7 TRANNINH from Hongay with cargo 2500 tons of coal, MAJLIGAL. Departure 18/7 tanker AUGUSTINA for Palembang via Pore. (Consul Gen., Manila, 1119/19, to S.O.I. Hong Kong.)

America and West Indies.

LIVERPOOL LETITIA ASTURIAS	Following approximate dates completion ex trials. (B.A.R.M., 0001/19 to Admty.)
Belle Isle, Ice. H.X.140. S.C. 38.	Admty 1504B/18 and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0048Z/19 to C.C.N.F. only. Consider use of Belle Isle Straits for H.X.140 and S.C.38 is feasible ? if recommendations in my 1501Z/18 are implemented and passage of Straits is made in daylight. Air R/C will be obtained. (C.C.N.F., 0328Z/19 to Admty. etc.) Your 1504B/18. If any change made in route of H.X.140 and S.C.38 we must be advised immediately and both sailings advanced. While numerous icebergs have been reported in Belle Isle, ice risk also prevails south of Newfoundland and average fog is worse on Southern route. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0330Z/19 to Admty.)
"R" Report 5/7.	Your 0246B/19 giving repetition of 1116B/18. ANTEMATKOVIC left here 17/7 due Philadelphia 27/7. (St. Lucia W.I., 1000/19 to Admty.)
FORT DE FRANCE.	Departure 19/7 French Guiana 23/7. (Para, 1034/19 to M. of W.T.) My 1621/7 and related signals. Satisfactory assurances concerning cargo have now been obtained and FORT DE FRANCE is not to be interfered with on return journey. (Head of M. 1157B/19 to C. in C. A.W.I.) (C. in C. A.W.I., 10220/19 to PRINCE DAVID.)

/TULIP.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S.11B.
U.S.12.

A.C.N.B's 0831Z/14.
Request confirmation that escorts can be provided for following convoys.
(a) U.S.11B. leaving Freemantle for Malaya about 6/8.
(b) U.S.12 leaving Sydney about end of August for M.E.
(c) Three Dutch ships after return from U.S.11B leaving Sydney about 4/9 for M.E.
(D.O.D. (F) 1730B/19 to A.C.N.B., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. China.)
Confirmed. (A.C.N.B. 1256Z/21).
Confirmed (a). (C. in C. China, 0247Z/21.)

New Zealand.

DOMINION MONARCH

Your 1255M/14 to D. of S.T. para 2(b).
Onward escort to Halifax will be arranged.
(D.O.D. (F) 1723B/19 to N.Z.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 19.7.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

GUELMA (torpedoed 17/7.) — Survivors in THUNDERBOLT. See North Atlantic.

ARUNDO (gunned 1/7) — Has arrived in Liverpool safely with all her crew. (D.S. 683, 19/7.)

ANSELM — Sunk 0737/7 G.M.T. S. 47.25 N. 28.35 W. Re disposal of C.B.s. (C. in C. S.A. 1820N/19.)

Submarines Reported.

2332/18 — Bearings of Italian U-boat 190 at 2332 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 0206B/19 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (27 German, 6 Italian.) (D.D.I.C. 1358B/19.)

2110 — Am over enemy submarine, 55.51 N., 9.58 W. (Training Command Duty Q. 2110/19.) Enemy submarine previously reported when first sighted was on course 300°, estimated speed 6 knots. (Training Command Duty Q 2117/19.)

2053 — At 2053 G.M.T. German submarine bearing 270°/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 2347B/19 to N.A. Stn.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

19.7.1941.
Saturday.

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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B's. M.T.B's, which were ordered on 13/7 to concentrate at Dover when there were considered to be indications that the SCHARNHORST might be about to sail, returned to their respective bases today.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command aircraft engaged in minelaying last night also bombed targets at the Frisian Islands and hit and set on fire a 2,000 ton merchantman off the Frisian coast. This afternoon -several attacks by Blenheims and fighters resulted in a 6,000 ton escorted tanker being hit and beached near Berck-sur-Mer; 3 M.T.B's from Dover were ordered to attack after dark, but all had to return to harbour with defects.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C. 48 was attacked at 2248 near No. 57 Buoy and tanker SAN ROBERTO and S.S. UMVUMA were damaged and were taken to the Humber.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

21 Hampdens laid mines last night in the mouth of the Elbe and 10 in the mouth of the Weser.

Mediterranean.

Malta — Air raids were carried out on Malta last night. No casualties or damage were caused.

Western Desert. — Constant shelling and air raids on Tobruk are interfering with the unloading of A lighters.

America and West Indies.

S.S. BANGALORE was damaged in collision with S.S. RICHMOND CASTLE at 1050Z today in 1° 7' N. 42° 0' W. and had to be sunk by gunfire. RICHMOND CASTLE proceeded under her own steam for Trinidad.

South Greenland Patrol, consisting of C.G. cutters is operating off the Greenland coast.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. PALMA sailing independently was gunned and slightly damaged by a S/M at 0343 today in 50° 14' N. 17° 53' W.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

NIGER
SALAMANDER
HALYCON.

Your 1517B/19. NIGER and SALAMANDER will be ready for sea 0900/21 and HALYCON at 1200/20.
(A.C.N.S. H. 0017B/20 to C. in C. H.F.)

Control of Convoys during Invasion.

M/P.D.s. 09571/41 of 7th July. Should A.C.H.Q. Liverpool be overwhelmed during an invasion and C. in C. W.A. eliminated, following arrangements proposed. Details.
(C. in C. W.A. 0134/20 to Admty.)

GARLAND.

On arrival at Scapa GARLAND is to act under orders of C. in C. H.F.
(C. in C. W.A. 1144B/20.)

Sink at Sight Area.

F.O.S. 1622B/15. Delete penultimate sentence and substitute any warships or merchant ships definitely identified as Spanish should not be attacked in this extension. If there is doubt as to identity of Merchant ships they are to be attacked.
F.O.S. 2202B/14 add and to the South of 49° N.
(F.O.S. 1213B/20 to S/M's. Area A.)

BERWICK

Anticipate that BERWICK will be ready to sail for Scapa on 1/8 for service as a two shaft ship.
Re refit. (Controller 1622B/20.)

Channel Convoy Escort Craft.

A.M. 1609B/1/6, 1616B/29/5 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1319/15.
Owing to casualties in the Nore and Rosyth Commands it has become impossible for C. in C. Nore to assist C. in C. Portsmouth with the Channel Convoys.
The following adjustment of allocations has therefore been made.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1647B/20.)

Coastal Forces during Invasion.

In the event of invasion and if prior Admiralty instructions have not been given C. in C. W.A. is to take under his orders all Coastal Forces employed on training duties at ST. CHRISTOPHER and SEAHAWK.
(D.O.D. H. 1729/20.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

U.S.A. Submarines

My 1937B/19 amend as follows:-
(A) For Anti-invasion" read "Anti invasion patrols in vicinity of our own coasts"
(B) For "Blockade of enemy coast under present conditions" read "Normal Biscay Patrols".
(F.O.S. 1017B/20 to B.A.S.R.)

Movements.

ADVENTURE

My 1515C/19. Following recognition signals for ADVENTURE have been arranged with Soviet Naval Authorities to come into force when ADVENTURE passes meridian 15° E.
If R/V is not made ADVENTURE will proceed unescorted and following procedure with shore observation posts will be in force.
Essential that ADVENTURE should not be early at R/V.
(Hd. of Naval Mission Moscow, 1001C/20.)
Communication between ADVENTURE and Russia should be via British Admiralty and British Embassy Moscow.
2. Route should keep to northward latitude 73° N. between longitude 15° and 40° E.
3. In the event of fog at R/V ADVENTURE should proceed towards her destination Russian destroyer will inform Naval authorities and coast defences.
(Hd. of Naval Mission, Moscow, 1014C/20.)
Admiralty 1850B/19. 109 parachutes have arrived. Intend to sail 1130 today. E.T.A. 0800/22.
(ADVENTURE, 1054/20.)
My 1126B/20. Code word VIRUS sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1301B/20.)

VAN KINSBERGEN

Admiralty 1742B/19. From 057° N. 030° W. steer as follows to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A. 1027B/20 to VAN KINSBERGEN.)

VANQUISHER
WINCHELSEA
GURKHA
LEGION
LANCE
PIORUN.

Will be required to R/V as arranged by F.O.I.C. Greenock in North Channel at 0600/22 and proceed in company to Iceland. Destroyers are to fuel immediately on arrival and are to be ready to leave Iceland P.M./24 for special escort duties.
(C. in C. W.A. 1146B/20.)
C. in C. W.A. 1146B/20. R/V in 300° Oversay 19' at 0600B/22.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1444B/20.)

Operation E.F.V.2.

A.C.O.S. is requested to sail R.F.A. BLACK RANGER escorted by 2 destroyers detailed by R.A.(D) H.F. to arrive at Seidis Fiord by 0600/24.
Destroyers will refuel from Oiler WAR SUDRA and the force will then proceed in accordance with operation E.F.V.2.
(C. in C. H.F. 1627B/20.)

/FURIOUS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

FURIOUS

My 1748B/19. Sailed FURIOUS escorted by CASTLETON and CHARLESTON from Ailsa Craig. E.T.A. 1700/21.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2128B/20.)

TIGRIS
TRIDENT

Re employment. (F.O.(S) 2322B/20).
See Operations Volume.

Operations.

Net-laying Operation.

Departure MINSTER, commencing net laying operations.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0725B/20.)

Proposed Patrol off Faroes. MINERVE.

(a) I suggest MINERVE should be sailed 22/7 for a patrol off Faroes in an area enclosed by line drawn 360° and 90° from Fuglo. The patrol to be carried out between visibility distance and 1½ times visibility distance from shore.
(b) I hope to be able to arrange suitable air co-operation and, being in close touch with both Admiralty and H.Q.C.C., I think it would be simpler for me to co-ordinate all intelligence received and operate MINERVE accordingly. My 1238B/20 refers.
(F.O.S. 1237B/20 to A.C.O.S.)

Interception of Enemy Tanker.

Large enemy Tanker escorted by two trawlers passed Cap Gris Nez Westbound at 1345. Speed through the water 13 knots.
(V.A. Dover, 1405B/20 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
An enemy 6000 ton tanker is now proceeding Westward through the Dover Straits. Her next port of call is not known, but may be Havre.
2. She is screened by R boats with a strong fighter escort.
3. She is now being shadowed by our aircraft.
4. An air attack has been arranged to take place at about 1530 today.
5. Two Destroyers are to be sailed from Portsmouth to endeavour to intercept enemy, if she survives air attack, to the North of Dieppe. The normal track used by these enemy ships lies about 12 miles off Shore.
6. It is at the S.O's discretion to discontinue the operation if counter measures by either Air or Coastal batteries render it necessary.
7. V.A. Dover is requested to keep C. in C. Portsmouth and S.O. Destroyers supplied with any information he may receive.
8. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to inform V.A. Dover the names of Destroyers detailed.
(1st S.L. 1437B/20 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/Admiralty...

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of Enemy Tanker. Contd.

Admiralty 1437. BLENCATHRA and BERKELEY with fighter escort as far as possible.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1537B/20 to V.A. Dover.)
Your 1517. Cannot make position until (?0600) by which time Tanker will be hour and half to Westward.
(BLENCATHRA, 1701/20, to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Tanker was hit by bomb. Pending further information keep 40 miles from French Coast to avoid detection.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1737B/20 to BLENCATHRA.)
Return to Base. Tanker beached.
(V.A. Dover, 1913B/20 to BLENCATHRA.)
M.T.B's. 55, 49 and 51 are to clear harbour by 2200 and proceed to attack tanker beached ½ mile to seaward of Berck-sur-Mer.
(V.A. Dover, 2001B/20.)

British Air Activity.

48,000 tons Enemy Shipping destroyed. 9,000 tons damaged.

Attacks on Shipping off Hague and Nordeney on 19/7. Details.
(H.Q.B.C., 0102/20.)
See Lion Copy.

Patrols.

Patrols TROST, BERT, and STAB are being flown to reach Norwegian Coast about 1230/20.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1028/20.)
Rover Patrol by three Beaufort A/C in vicinity Sogne Fjord has just taken off.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1114/20.)
Patrol STAND now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2112/20.)

Proposed R/C Patrol.

F.O.(S) 1237B/20. A. Recent D/F bearings suggest that U-Boats on passage between Norway and Atlantic cross Meridian 003° East between 61° and 62° N. I am of opinion they all use a similar route which they have found to be safe from mines.
B. In view of MINERVE forthcoming patrol request most continuous and thorough air R/C possible may be instituted forthwith with object of locating this route in following areas.
C. Air activity in vicinity S/M position should be avoided in order U-Boat may be encouraged to make this part of passage on surface.
(F.O.S. 1238B/20.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

PILAR DE LARRINAGA (Bombed 18/7)

Sailed ZWARTE ZEE.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 0120B/20.)
Return to Base.
(C. in C. W.A. 1110B/20 to WESTCOTT.)
Report whether you are proceeding to Rothesay or Belfast.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1009B/20 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
Contact maintained PILAR DE LARRINAGA and made fast 055° 10' 005° 43' 0840B/20. Course 161°, speed 10 knots.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 1045/20.)

Convoy E.C.47 attacked on 18/7.

E.C.47 attacked by aircraft in 52° 58' N. 01° 55' E. at about 1940B/18. Two L.L.B. attacks made. Sticks of five bombs being dropped in each. No hits and no damage. Casualties from M.G. fire in STOCKPORT. Enemy aircraft hotly engaged by escorts and M.Vs. with barrage fire and close range weapons and seen to be repeatedly hit by latter.
(LUDLOW, 0950/20.)

Convoy DEVICE.

One unidentified aircraft bearing 180° from DEVICE. My position 50° 31' N. 0° 3' E.
(BLENCATHRA, 1826/20.)

Mining.

Whitehaven Minefield.

Whitehaven Field completed. Now operative.
(R.N.O. Whitehaven, 1410B/20.)

S.N.21.B.

Deep minefield S.N.21B will be laid as follows starting at 0745/22.
(R.A.M. 1442/20.)

Operation N.L.4.

Intend to carry out operation N.L.4. tonight.
(V.A. Dover, 1647B/20.)
Two M.L.'s will be operating close to the coast off Boulogne tonight.
Request they shall on no account be illuminated by flares from friendly aircraft.
(V.A. Dover, 1705B/20 to H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Suspicious Vessel. Admiral Devonport. DE GQGV QQQQ. In 47° 44' N. 22° 22' W. CANADIAN STAR suspicious vessel 0900/20 ends.
(Valentia Radio, 0910/20.) (Liverpool 0914/20.)

Main Units. Pru Sortie T/296 dated 20/7 item 1205 hours shows Kiel ADMIRAL SCHEER has departed since 12/7. Other major Naval Units as on that date viz TIRPITZ in Southern floating dock and Hipper Class Cruiser and LUTZOW in dry docks 5 and 6.
(PRU. Benson, 1730/20.)

Casualties and Defects.

UMPIRE (Sunk 19/7) PETER HENDRIKS is to part company at Sunk Buoy and proceed to Harwich in company with WIDGEON.
(C. in C. Nore, 0920B/20.)
My 0140B/19. Position of wreck.
(WOLSEY, 0930B/20.)

Shipping and Convoys.

O.B.346. My 1716B/19. When well clear, report position course and speed O.B. 346.
(C. in C. W.A. 1049B/20 to AURICULA, MARIGOLD.)
Cancel my 1049B/20. Do not break W/T silence.
(C. in C. W.A. 1505B/20.)

O.B.348 O.B.348. Detail one Destroyer and LEDA to escort ships bound for Iceland from 18° 00' W. to destination. Ships detailed to meet S.C.37.
(C. in C. W.A. 1232B/20 to DOUGLAS.)

Balloons flown by E.Coast ships X.510. 20/7. Reference Air Min. X.L.12/7. Arrangements now made with Admiralty that balloons will be flown non-lethal until further notice.
(Air Min., 1500/20, to Bomber Comd.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ISAC towed by BEVERLEY.	Estimated P.C. & S. 0800A/20 035° 54' N., 007° 50' W.090° 5.5 knots. (BEVERLEY, 0015A/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)
French Shipping.	Passings 19/7 Westward DAHOMEY, FORT DE SOUVILLE, PORTHOS, VILLE DE VERDUN, PIERRE L.D. all full. (F.O.C.N.A., 1021B/20).
VIMY.	Your 1757N/19. VIMY will be sailed on completion of working up and in accordance with Admty. 1916B/7/6. (F.O.C.N.A., 1154B/20 to C. in C. S.A.)
S.S. LORCA.	Your 2034B/19. LORCA was routed by N.C.S.O. Gibraltar in reference 1347A/7 F.O.C.N.A., to Las Palmas only prior to receipt of A.M. 1954/7. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1157B/20 to Admty).
O.G. 68	Your 2212B/18/7. Request following additional information. (V.A.C.N.A., 1304B/20 to C. in C. W.A.)
VERVAIN CLOVER.	May call at Ponta Delgada about 24/7. Fuelling arrangements. (D.O.D. (F) 1431B/20 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada for B.C.)
FAULKNOR FURY.	Last leave given to ships companies of FAULKNOR and FURY was in August 1940 for 4 days and 6 days respectively. If circumstances permit suggest these ships escort (?RENOWN) (?to) U.K. and give 5 days leave to each watch, being replaced temporarily by 2 destroyers taking part SUBSTANCE. This might be combined with short refit for FAULKNOR who owing to lack of facilities at Gibraltar has not been refitted since June 1940. (S.O. Force H., 1701B/20 to Admty) Reply 2148/21
N.A. A/S forces.	A.T. 1916B/7/6 and 1550B/10/7. Decision to give A/S escort to H.G. and O.G. convoys throughout by corvettes from Western Approaches will release Gibraltar A/S forces for local work and for reinforcing convoy escorts in the Gibraltar focal area. Not therefore intended to use working up destroyers to reinforce N.A. A/S forces and A.M. 1857B/10 and 1804B/3 are cancelled. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1847B/20 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.)

/Report.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Report of German Destroyers. Gibraltar.	Your 1725/17. Only warship movements Eastward observed during period 20/24/4 were French and also four Spanish Destroyers. Visibility average seven miles with no thick weather. Neutral Master in Naples between 12/4 and 4/5 observed 8 Destroyers 6 Torpedo Boats in port but no German. Suggest reports savour of war of nerves technique. (S.O.(I) Gib., 2006/20 to S.O.(I) Med).
FLEUR DE LYS.	Your 1202B/19. Request you will issue necessary instructions to FLEUR DE LYS. (C. in C. W.A., 2135B/20 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ILEDRE (French).	20/7 arrived here for repairs to boiler on route from Algeria to New York. (B.V.C. Fayal 2325/20 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

FORT DE FRANCE.	My 1833/15 satisfactory assurances as to Cargo now received and FORT DE FRANCE is not to be interfered with. (C. in C. S.A., 0135/20 to CILICIA).
DIDO	My 1530/19 (N.T. in W.R.) Amend date and time of departure of DIDO to 1500/19. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0805Z/20). As DIDO has sufficient endurance for passage St. Helena Trinidad at S.O.A. 18 knots she should not call at Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1257N/20 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
HANNINGTON COURT (abandoned on fire 14/7.)	C.A.F.O. 160/40 para 2. (1) HANNINGTON COURT (11) by gunfire (111) nothing showing above water (1V) position obtained by compass bearing 034° 46.5' S., 019° 23.7 E. Position not buoyed. (DRAGON, 0953Z/20 to Admty).
CROMARTY SOPHOCLES.	Overdue shipping CROMARTY due Capetown 16/7 from Freemantle not arrived. My 1132/19 SOPHOCLES arrived Capetown. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1015B/20).

/Imaginary.....

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Imaginary enemy report.	Am imaginary enemy report will be made about 1930Z/20 on 8290 Kc/s from call sign 3 K.L. T.O.O. 1806N in approx 022° N., 022° W. This report will subsequently be cancelled by fleet code message. Both reports will be handled as if genuine. (C. in C. S.A., 1301N/20 to MORETON BAY).
IRENE.S. EMBIRICOS.	Over-due shipping my 1132/19 IRENE S EMBIRICOS arrived Colombo. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1621/20).
BRIKA.	Cancel my G.B.M.S. Area 6A 114/N/25 BRIKA has arrived Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1740N/20 to Admty).
HANNINGTON COURT.	My 1003/14 and 1223/19 DRAGON reports HANNINGTON COURT broke up and finally sank p.m./19/7 in 34° 46' 05" S., 19° 23' 07" E. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 0820Z/20 to Admty).

Mediterranean.

URGE.	Go ahead. (Cdr. S.1., 0300B/20 to URGE).
S/Ms entering Alexandria.	Local instructions. (Capt. (S) 1 0955C/20 to 1st S.M.F. negative U Class).
Air raid on Alexandria.	My A. 870 19/7 para. 2 during raid night 18/19 July between 14 and 20 aircraft dropped 14 bombs and 2 mines in and near Alexandria Harbour. No damage to harbour but slight civilian damage and casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1031/20).
Benghazi bombed.	Night 18/19. 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour starting fires and explosions at base of Cathedral Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1032/20).
FORMIDABLE.	Admty 2109B/11. Major defects (list) (C. in C. Med., 1102C/20 to Britman Washington)
Suez Canal.	My 1801/6. Mines at K/Ms 99 exploded spontaneously at (Minus sign) 35C/19. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1103C/20).

/French.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

French Warships. A number of French men of War are expected to pass Straits of Messina westbound P.M./20. They are not to be interfered with. (V.A. Malta, 1143B/20 to S/Ms Malta Force.)

Floating Dock. Proposal to build in India for use at Port Sudan (C. in C. Med., 1206C/20 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Yugoslav M.T.B.'s Your 1015C/19. Unless you require Yugo-Slavian M.T.B.'s immediately intend to carry out night exercises with them and sail them so as to arrive Alexandria. P.M./24 calling at Port Said for fuel. (C. in C, Med., 1231B/20 to C.S.7) Approved. (C. in C. Med., 1659C/20).

PARRAMATTA. My 11110/17 and 2257C/19. PARRAMATTA is to sail from Famagusta A.M./23 for Port Said. (C. in C. Med., 1352C/20 to N.O.I.C. Famagusta PARRAMATTA).

GLEN ships. A.T.1231B/18. If GLEN ship chosen to return to U.K. has not yet left, she should remain in Mediterranean for present. If she has left she should not proceed further than Port Sudan. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1608B/20 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I.)

Malta, Palermo. Malta. Night 19/20. 4 raids only bombs on land in a field no casualties or damage.
Photographs Palermo. 19/7 significant that 2 cruisers remain in target area bombed by Wellington 17/18 July when all other warships have left. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1620 /20).

ILEX. Your 2215C/19 appears to have crossed Admty 1727B/17 the intention of which is that ILEX should proceed to Simonstown. (D.O.D. (F) 1845B/20 to C. in C. Med).

UNION. Report your position. (S.O.(S/Ms) Malta, 2103B/20).

Situation report No. 92. Western Desert. ABDIEL has returned to Alexandria having run supplies into Tobruk night 19/20 with (?DECOY). Unloading of A lighters at night (? in) Tobruk interfered with by constant shelling and air raids. (UNBEATEN 2000/15 as C.O. S/Ms Malta 1220B/19).
Request no action (?publication).
(C. in C. Med., 2340C/20 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 20.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

IRENE S. EMBIRICOS. Your 1132/19. Overdue shipping. IRENE S. EMBIRICOS arrived Colombo 9/7. She was diverted at sea by Admiralty. (S.O.(I) Colombo, 0430Z/20 to S.O.(I) Capetown).

W.S. 9.A2. U.S.11.A. C. in C. Med., 1853/19. (N.T. In W.R.)
(i) Take over operational control of W.S. 9 A.2 and U.S.11 A. north of lat. 027° altering anchorages as necessary.
(ii) W.S. 9 A.2 has orders to go to Uurearmu Zenima.
(iii) U.S.11 A will be escorted up Red Sea by CALEDON. My 0606/20 which follows refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 0604Z/20 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area.)

Petrol for Berbera Your 0122B/16. In present (?stage) and rate of discharge KOLA and CERION together are delivering 600 tons petrol weekly whereas 2,660 tons cased petrol are required. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa, 1205Z/19 to D. of S.T.)

WESTRALIA. Your 1114Z/20 to WESTRALIA ship already diverted to Bombay by C. in C. E.I. in accordance with A.C.N.B. 1147/16 not to you. Ship has acknowledged receipt. (C. in C. E.I., 1358Z/20 to Admty).

China.

Manila and Subig Bays. American Naval authorities notify. The entrance to Manila and Subig Bays will be dangerous on account of mines after daylight 17/7. Instructions for entry. (Cdr. H.K. W.D.A., 0159Z/20 to China Station and R.F.A.s)

ODENWALD SPREEWALD. (German). Yokohama departure 19/7 ODENWALD Japanese flag with name unknown in characters, (description) (2) SPREEWALD returned to anchorage in harbour painted ash grey. (C.O.S. Singapore 1401Z/20).

Bunkers at Honolulu. A.M. 1859/6. A complaint has been received stating that ships from the Far East bound for Panama are not being allowed to call at Honolulu for bunkers. Request your remarks.
(D.T.D., 1626B/20 to C. in C. China).

D'ARTAGNAN, French. Arrived. (Shanghai, 2358Z/20 to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SURCOUF. Ship will be taken at Portsmouth New Hampshire. (B.A.R.M., 0315/20).

DOMINION MONARCH. Re. escort. (C. in C. A.W.I.,1201Q/20) See Operations Volume.

PARTHIAN. Can she be taken in hand for refit in U.S.A. about 15/9? (D.O.D. (F) 1434B/20 to B.A.R.M.)

Ships detached from O.B.343. C. in C. W.A. 1710B/17. HARVESTER reports impossible to determine name of ship owing to heavy fog. (N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 1454Z/20 to Admty).

U.S. Naval Authorities report. South Greenland Patrol consisting of BOWDOIN, RARITAN, MODOC, and COMANCHE is operating off the Greenland coast from Cape Brewster to Upernivik. In lat. 39° in longitude 46° and 59° are the weather observation vessels DUANE and MOJAVE. None of these vessels are equipped with any recognition signals. A.L.U.S.N.A., Ottawa has been requested to pass to C.N.S. Ottawa for information 1218/20 ends. (D.D.I.C. 1459/20 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

A.M.C.'s reliefs. Your 1206/19. Intention was to sail CHESHIRE for Freetown on 25/7 and CIRCASSIA during first week in August. Request early confirmation that this is suitable. WORCESTERSHIRE has presumably had accommodation for passengers increased during refit and CHESHIRE is poor (?in) this respect. (F.O.C. 3 B.S. 1754P/20 to Admty) Arrangements are quite suitable. (D.O.D. (F) 1752B/21). Ditto (C. in C. S.A., 0019N/22).

H.X. 141 escort. ST. FRANCIS who was allocated to H.X. 141 has serious boiler defects and must proceed forthwith to Halifax for retubing. Thus there is no destroyer available for escort of this convoy without serious disorganization of N.E.F. to prejudice of future convoy escorts. Urgently request consideration be given to detaining ST. CROIX if available or alternatively another destroyer force for this duty. (C.C.N.F. 2359Z/20 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

20.7.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

Unknown Ship. Following has been read. From B E D S 2 (signification unknown) S S S S 49.15 N., 21.00 W. gunned 0136/20 lat uncertain. (Liverpool W/T 0220/20).

PALMA. Following has been read. SSSS 50.14N., 17.53 W., -being gunned. (Lands End Radio, 0343/20 Valentia Radio T.H.I. 0556/20, Liverpool, W/T 0558/20). British 5419 tons, position about 500 miles W. by N. of Ushant. Bound independently from Rosario for Liverpool with wheat and general cargo. (D.S. 685).
PALMA cancel my SSS 0343/20 (ends). 0531/20. (Valentia Radio, No. T.O.O./20).
Request permission to proceed quickest route. One bad casualty, all cooking wrecked, now 355° 268 miles from May 0600 G.M.T. (PALMA, 0640/20 to Admty).
Cancel my 1110B/20. Proceed to escort M/V PALMA slightly damaged by U-Boat. R/V with her in 54° 15' N., 12° 00' W. at 0600B/21 steering for 55° 00' N., 10° 00' W. 15 knots. (C. in C. W.A., 1153B/20 to WESTCOTT).

RUPERT DE LARRINAGA (torpedoed 14/7). Torpedoed 2153 G.M.T./14 36.18 N., 21.11 W. Ship sank at 2230 G.M.T. after second torpedo hit her. Entire crew rescued without casualties. Re. C.B.'s. (V.A.C.N.A. 1202B/20 July).

Submarines Reported.

2300/19. At 2300 G.M.T. Italian S/M call sign 88 F bearing 260° from Middle Hill Gibraltar. This was a first sighting report. (F.O.C.N.A., 0129B/20 to N.A. Stn My 0129B/20. Italian U-Boat within 60 miles of 035° N., 013° W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0423B/20 to N.A.Stn).

0530 N. S/M reported in area 019° 30' N to 20° 24' N., 20° 48' W. to 21° 42' W. Alter to westward as required then resume route.(C. in C. S.A., 0531N /20 to MORETON BAY).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1432B/20).

1012 G.M.T. Italian Submarine within 60 miles 035° 00' 014° 00'. (F.O.C.N.A., 1516B/20 to S.& A. N.A.,Stn).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

A standing air patrol is to be instituted, to be flown at dusk or during bright moonlight when weather and tide conditions are suitable for small motor boat attack on Scapa Flow by way of the eastern entrances.

British Air Operations.

A Flak ship was set on fire this morning off the mouth of the Somme, by Hurricanes engaged in escorting bombers in an unsuccessful attack on merchant ship. An "R" boat was also hit, off Gravelines.

Last night, aircraft of bomber Command carried out minor attacks on Rotterdam Docks and Oil storage.

Enemy Air Operations.

One Enemy A/C attacked Aberdeen harbour area at 0223 today. The Kite Balloon Section was put out of action.

Mining.

Acoustic mines were detonated off Plymouth today.

A few Coastal Command aircraft laid mines off Rouen in Rade De La Carosse, Lorient, St. Nazaire, and the Frisian Is.

Enemy mine laying aircraft operated last night off the Norfolk Coast.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

British Consul St. Vincent states that it is reliably reported that a U-boat was in San Pedro Bay, St. Vincent Island during the night of 19 July.

Mediterranean.

Malta. — A few enemy aircraft bombed Malta last night. No damage was caused.

Naples. — 9 Wellingtons from Malta attacked railway sidings near the harbour at Naples last night.

Operation SUBSTANCE. — (Passage fo Convoy G.M.1. from U.K. with personnel equipment and stores to Malta escorted by cruisers and destroyers of the Home Fleet). The convoy passed through the Straits of Gibraltar during the dark hours. Force H and NELSON remained to eastward of the convoy.

Libya & Western Desert. — LATONA and STUART ran personnel and supplies into Tobruk during the dark hours of this morning.

6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.

Cyprus. — The passage of reinforcements to Cyprus continues.

China.

A further Japanese move southward appears imminent. H.M. Govt. have authorised certain shipping restrictions on the coast of Malaya.

U-Boat Campaign.

IDA KNUDSEN is reported to have been torpedoed and sunk at 2010 G.M.T., today in 34° 34' N., 14° 40' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

TEVIOT BANK. 1. Decided to equip TEVIOT BANK forthwith for service abroad and to sail her for the East at the first convenient opportunity.
2. Further instructions will follow.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1036B/21, to R.A.(M)).

North Sea & Bay of Biscay areas. My 1806B/19. Amend date of A.L. to read 12/3.
(D.O.D. (H) 1909B/21.)

As Adty. 1806B/19.
(C. in C. H.F. 1414B/21 to H.F.)

NORDSTJERNAN. (Swedish) left Gothenburg 20/7 for South America via Faeroes.
This ship is Class C and message N.P.D.S.140.
(D.E.W.D. 1724B/21 to A.I.G. 23, 38, N.O.I.C. Faeroes.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Reciprocal provision of aircraft silhouettes.
(30 M.M. Moscow 0113/21.)

Movements.

SALVAGE CHIEFTAIN. When SALVAGE CHIEFTAIN leaves convoy she is to be escorted to Iceland.
(C. in C. W.A. 0010B/21 to BROADWATER.)

TRIDENT. WHITE BEAR to R/V with TRIDENT 0515B/23 and escort her to Clyde. Arrangements.
(Capt. (S) 3 1029B/21 1055B/21.)

SEAWOLF. To pass Needles at 2115B/21 for patrol in Bay of Biscay. Route.
(Capt. (S) 5 1133B/21, 1733/21, F.O.S.1514B/21.)

OLIGARCH. A.C.O.S. is requested to keep oiler OLIGARCH at one hours notice from 2000/22 to proceed to Seidis Fiord escorted by one destroyer detailed by R.A.D. H.F.
(C. in C. H.F. 1153B/21.)

/RUBIS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.41. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

RUBIS. My 1102B/10. RUBIS will now be required at Dundee for other duties. (F.O. (S) 1452B/21 to A.C.O.S.)

AMSTERDAM. LADY OF MAN. Understand W.O. and Admiralty have agreed fortnightly Troop Ship service by AMSTERDAM and LADY OF MAN being run from Invergordon instead of Aberdeen, commencing 30/7. Request confirmation etc. (C. in C. Rosyth 1885/21, to Adty.)

MALAYA escort. Your 13.57/19. This can be arranged. It may be necessary to use HUNT Class. (C. in C. H.F. 1832B/21. to Adty.)

MINERVE. Re sailing for patrol. (A.C.O.S. 1937B/21.)

Operations.

Attack on tanker. My 2001/20. Attack was not carried out as all M.T.B's had to return with defects. (V.A. Dover 0937B/21.)

A/S Sweep. My 1143/21. Take ships addressed under your orders and carry out A/S sweep in direction 345° passing between Seven Stones and Longships as far as 050° 25' N., and thence on reciprocal course to Wolf Rock. Coastal aircraft will co-operate. Code word SLAVE. (C. in C. Plymouth 1149/21 1321/21 to KRAKOWIAK.)

TUNA. My 2024B/17 para. A. You may extend your patrol from present position to a position 26 miles 240° therefrom.
Cancel para. C retiring to Southwestward is likely to be more profitable than any other direction. S.B.R. in force area 55 and in area 54° 006° 30' W., but not in area 56.
(F.O. (S) 1109B/21 to TUNA.)

/MINERVE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations Contd.

MINERVE. Your 1237/20 para. (B). Concur you should assume responsibility for co-ordinating all intelligence received and for operating MINERVE when on patrol. I will issue sailing orders patrol orders and request bombing restrictions and secret AZ messages. Copy patrol orders will be sent to you.
(A.C.O.S. 1140B/21. to F.O.S.)
My 1937/21. Request following may be promulgated by secret A Z message.
Surface ships may not attack submarines an area enclosed by lines joining positions:-

(A)	63 degs.	29 mins. North	07 degs.	00'mins. West.
(B)	63	29	05	15
(C)	62	51	03	44
(D)	62	21	03	44
(E)	62	00	04	34
(F)	62	00	06	50
(G)	62	20	07	00

From 1200/23 until further notice.
(A.C.O.S. 1949B/21 to Adty.)

TIGRIS. Your 2322B/20 P.M./26.
(S.3. 1544B/21 to F.O. (S.))

Destroyer patrol. On completion of sweep send M.L. to Newlyn to refuel and Trawler to Falmouth to continue with W.P.7. 22/7.
(2) Destroyers are to patrol between Lizard Head and Bishop Rock tonight.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1859/21 to KRAKOWIAK.)

British Air Operations.

Patrols. Sunderland leaves Sullom Voe 1540/22 to fly patrols Voe A and Voe B alternately. This will be continued by relays of aircraft until further notice.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1544/21.)
Desire to institute a standing air patrol to be flown at dusk or during bright moonlight when weather and tide conditions are suitable for a small motor boat attack on the Flow by way of the Eastern entrances. The object of the Patrol being to give early warning of the boats or their carriers.
Request therefore, that Patrol "FAIR" may be extended to the following positions:

59	52 N.	01	27 W.
59	52 N.	01	08 W.
58	20 N.	01	27 W.
58	20 N.	01	08 W.

(A.C.O.S. 1755/21, to Adty.)
A/S patrol in exercise area west of Orkneys being flown by 18 Group from 1900/21 to 0800/22.
Patrols STAB and BERT now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1846/21.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C.48. SAN ROBERTO (British Tanker, 5890 Tons.) damaged. UMVUMA (British, 4419 Tons.) damaged.	Attacked at 57 buoy at 2248 SAN ROBERTO in hand steering with U.X.B., in poop, MALLARD standing by. UMVUMA steering gear out of action, some damage to engines, LADY PHILOMENA and 1 M.L. standing by. Both ships proceeding slowly to Humber. Request tugs for UMVUMA. (Capt. D.16. 0030B/21, C. in C. Nore 1016B/21.) At 0100 in 53° 03' 30" N., 01° 41' E., taken SAN ROBERTO in tow proceeding slowly towards Humber. Request tugs and fighter escort at H.3 buoy. (MALLARD 0121B/21.) SAN ROBERTO and UMVUMA arrived in Humber. (F.O. Humber 1407B/21, N.C.S.O. Humber 1446B/21.)
Aberdeen bombed.	One enemy aircraft attacked Harbour area 0223/21. Three bombs. Several kite balloons destroyed. Kite balloon section Aberdeen completely out of action. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0420/21.)
Blind firing at low flying A/C's.	Adty. 1303B/13/7. New Para. 18 (A) in S.P. 02312 (2). Conference was recently held in this command to determine the best method of countering the very low level bombing attacks on East coast convoys which have been experienced during the last few weeks. It was decided that escorts should try firing blind on any low flying aircraft approaching the convoy in dark hours or bad visibility as soon as the presence of the aircraft was detected and without waiting to sight it. 2. Previous experience had shown that if fire was withheld until the attacking aircraft was visible it was then too late to prevent the attack developing. 3. Considerable success has been achieved by this method in driving off aircraft and preventing the attack developing. It is the only known method at present which has shown any promise of success and if it has to be abandoned to comply with the terms of the Admiralty message referred to further casualties from this form of attack must be expected. 4. Request therefore, that the provisions of this Admiralty message may be amended to allow escorts to open fire on unseen low flying aircraft approaching the convoy. (C. in C. Nore 0954B/21, C. in C. Rosyth 1821/21.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation N.L.4.

My 1647/20. Operation was abandoned owing to navigational difficulties and will be carried out tonight Monday.
(V.A. Dover 0936B/21, 0944B/21.)
My 0944B. Operation postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (V.A. Dover 1816B/21.)

Operation S.N.21 B.

My 1141/19. Sailing delayed two hours.
(R.A.(M) 1957/21.)
Departure TEVIOT BANK and SCOTT.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2207/21.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Minesweepers off Brest.

5 minesweepers bearing 360°, distance 2 miles, course 250°. My position 48° 6' N., 5° 15' W., (A/C Duty P 0545/21.)
P.C. and S. of enemy. 5 minesweepers 48° 5' N., 5° 15' W., 250°. 8 knots.(A/C. Duty P.0545/21.)

Miscellaneous.

Flag of C.S.10.

The flag of F.O.C. 10th C.S. will be transferred from NIGERIA to KENYA at 0800B/22.
(C. in C. H.F. 1719B/21.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X.136.

Has arrived complete, 44 ships, including 20 Allied and 1 Neutral, Commodore, Rear-Adm., H.H. Rogers. Cargoes. (D.S. 685, 21/7.)

S.C.36.

Has arrived complete, 38 ships, including 20 Allied. Commodore, Vice-Adm. P.E. Parker. Cargoes. (D.S., 685, 21/7.)

Northbound Convoys.

Forecast of sailings from Southend.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1140/21.) Ditto, escorts.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1835/21.) See Lion Copy.

/OLIGARCH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys Contd.

OLIGARCH. A.C.O.S., requested to keep at hour's notice from 0700/22 to proceed to Seidis Fiord escorted by 1 destroyer detailed by R.A.D.H.F.
(C. in C. H.F. 1153B/21 to A.C.O.S. etc.)

H.G. and O.G. Escorts. Intend to attach 1 sloop to act as S.O. of each group (numbered 30 to 34) employed on through escort to and from Gibraltar. DEPTFORD to join group 32 and will be required to sail with O.G.70 on 30/7. FOWEY, ROCHESTER and LEITH will be allocated to groups sailing in August, HASTINGS to a group sailing in September.
2. Remaining sloops and cutters will in time be allocated to group employed on through escort to and from Sierra Leone but will be liable to take the place of sloops on Gibraltar convoys which may be refitting.
3. While groups are forming, sloops and cutters will be employed temporarily in Irish Sea Escort Force.
4. Place of sloops in Irish Sea Escort Force will eventually be taken by new construction.
(C. in C. W.A., 1652B/21, to F.O.I.C.'s Liverpool, Greenock, etc.)

Balloons. Reference Air Ministry Signal X.1. 12/7. Arrangements now made with Admiralty that balloons will be flown non-lethal until further notice.
(Air Ministry 1810/21, to R.A.F. Commands.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MALVERNIAN. A/C attack 1/7.

Four Officers and 21 men from British MALVERNIAN landed here today by Spanish fishing Vessel which found them in boat off this coast. They state MALVERNIAN attacked by enemy A/C 0830/1 47° N., 19° W, and set on fire. One boat with 40 men left ship 1/7 and another with 31 men left 7/7 in direction S.W. Ireland. On 11/7 when boat which has arrived here left MALVERNIAN she was still afloat with Commander and 31 men on board.
(Consul, Vigo, 0847/21 Consul, Vigo T.H.I. 1300/21 N.A. Madrid 1703/21).
Name of Spanish fishing vessel NUEVA ELISA.
Survivors state total crew of MALVERNIAN 164.
(Reuter Message, The Times, 23.7.1941.)
My 1703/21. Do Spanish Authorities realise she was H.M. Ship ? If not do not inform them. Form of action by Embassy to release men depends on reply. Instruct S.O. make written report. A.N.A. arrived 22/7.
(N.A. Madrid, 2031/21 to Vigo).

ERIN.

Request arrangements to supply ERIN with 90 tons coal and necessary water at Horta at 1100Z/23. Cable ship MIRROR will wait at Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A., 1118B/21 to Admty). (D.O.D. (F) 1858B/21 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

ISAC (French).

My 1956B/19. Arrival 1200/21 Fleet Tug ST. DAY and French S.S. ISAC. (F.O.C.N.A., 1634B/21 to Admty). Cargo and crew (C.C.S.O. Gib., 1651/21)

Gibraltar Evacuation.

Your 0914A/1. Sufficient personnel should be left to man limited services only plus 50% spare for unseen commitments and casualties.
(2nd S.L. 1747B/21 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CAUDEBEC LE TRAIT (French).

Arrived Setubal 19/7 CAUDEBEC, LE TRAIT, French .
(Lisbon, 1843/21 to M. of W.T.)

FAULKNOR FURY.

Your 1701B/20. Circumstances make it impossible for destroyers from Home Waters to be spared as reliefs. No reliefs can be provided from Mediterranean destroyers. No objection to your sending these destroyers home one at a time for leave and short refit provided you can spare them without relief. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2148B/21 to S.O. Force H).

French Convoys Passing Gibraltar 18/7, 19/7, 20/7. (D.O.R.21/7).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

RICHMOND CASTLE, BANGALORE, collision. — W/T Messages intercepted 1105/21 indicate RICHMOND CASTLE in collision with BANGALORE in 001° 07' N., 042° 00' W., at 1050Z/20 and requires towage. Another ship is proceeding to ship's assistance. Proceed to area in case required if your present position is not too far away. (C. in C. S.A., 1607N/21 to CILICIA) See also America and West Indies.

W.S. 8 B. W.S. 8 X. — Your 0126/3. Ships can be docked at Durban without undue delay. ALMANZORA due Durban 30/7. (P.S.T.O., Simonstown, 1712B/21 to Admty).

VILLE DE VERDUN, PIERRE L.D. — Vichy French Ships, are reported to be on passage Marseilles to Indo China, will probably cross latitude Freetown about 26/7. (C. in C. S.A., 2101N/21 to S.A. Stn).

ERLANGEN German. — Secret sources report has shifted to berth on N. side of mole A. at Wan Delplata with head to sea. Engine repairs reported finished and ship now ready for sea. Watch being kept but no signs of movement. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2307Z/21 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

ILEX. — Admty 1727B/17 and my 2215/19. Request you will arrange onward passage of ILEX from Aden to Simonstown. ILEX will require to fuel at Mombasa and is to report oil fuel (? stowage) to C. in C. E.I., forthwith. (C. in C. Med., 0925C/21 to C. in C. E.I.)

OTUS. — Before going on patrol OTUS must be docked; being taken in hand today, hope to complete and sail p.m./22 in accordance with your 1031C/19. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1005B/21 to Capt. S.1.)

/S/M GLAUCOS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

S/M GLAUCOS. My 1849C/20. Defer all dates one day. Leave area a.m./23 to arrive Sanctuary 0500/26. (Capt. S.1. 1145C/21 to Greek S/M GLAUCOS).

GEORGIC. S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 0953C/18 to you. Admty cannot accept on present evidence that GEORGIC is constructive total loss. Saving ship for future service of greater importance than monetary consideration. Report after complete divers' examination whether vessel is salvable. (Director of Salvage 1217B/21 to C. in C. Med).

Yugoslav M.T.B's C. in C's 1015C/19. Yugoslavian M.T.B.s DURMITOR and KAJMAKCAL are to leave Haifa at 0800C/22 and proceed to Alexandria calling at Port Said for fuel. E.T.A. Port Said 1600C/22. Alexandria 1630C/23. (F.O. 7 C.S., 1225C/21 to S.O. 10th M.T.B. Flot.)

PARTHIAN. Intend PARTHIAN to leave Alexandria 1800C/21 for U.K. in accordance with C. in C. 1129C/17. (Capt. S.1. 1321C/21 to C. in C. Med).

Enemy Convoy. P.C. and S. of enemy, 5 M.V.'s 2 Destroyers are 39.40 N., 17.50 E., 340°, 12.
(Med., A/C Duty P., 1330/21).
My 1330. Enemy previously reported are One 12,000 two 10,500 two 6,000.
(Med., A/C Duty P. 1335/21).
P.C. & S. of enemy are 352° 36° N., 12° E., 18 miles course 160° 10 knots.
(Hal Far 1900B/21 to A/C B. Sqdn.)

S/M Operation. Request you will issue special S/M movements summary no. 36 to cover present dispositions of S/Ms W., of line Ras Misurata - (?Cape Santa Maria di Leuca) during forthcoming operation. (Capt. S.1., 1521C/21 to S.O. (Subs) Malta).

Submarine Movements. Experience shows impracticable for me to issue up to date movements summaries for submarines operating from Malta. Following proposals submitted. Mediterranean to be divided into three areas. Western area, west of 009° E., Central area, from 9° E., to a line joining Cape Ras Misurata and Cape Santa Maria Di (?Manuca Leuca) Eastern area, east of Central (?area) including Adriatic and Aegean.

/Movements in .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Submarine Movements. Contd.	Movements in Western area as at present by F.O.C.N.A., but no summary issued. Movements and sanctuaries in Central and Eastern area to be issued in serial number Central and Eastern submarine movements summary by S.O. (S) Malta and Captain (S) 1 respectively. (Capt. S.1., 1525C/21 to C. in C. Med).
Malta Raid.	Night 20/21, 5 aircraft, bombs in fields, no damage.
Naples bombed.	Night 20/21, 9 Wellingtons attacked railway sidings near harbour at Naples. (H.Q. Malta, 1800/21).
S/M Intelligence.	Following information ex SEVERN obtained mid June. (1) 3 masted Schooners and M A S working with A/C and coast watcher. 2. After ship is (?sunk) shipping in area suspended for 2 days while A/S ships sweep, A/C locate and M A S attack. 3. Mines exist on all coasts and shallow waters off entrance to Messina. 4. Palermo. Possibility of entrance to bay mined. Channel entrance S. 86° 2.6 miles and 00° 4.5 miles. from Gallo approached on 180° and 200° respectively. Route from East apparently 280° from position 00° Cefalu 2 miles to 84° Zaffarano 6.8 miles, then 270° close Mongerbino. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1830B/21 to S/Ms Malta Force.)
ATLAS German.	Departure 19/7. (Valencia, 2030/21 to M. of W.T.)
CACHALOT.	Complete and loading Friday. Intend to carry out sounding trials Saturday and sail that night. (S.O.(S) Malta 2041B/21 to Capt. (S) 1).
Merchant Ships Scuttling.	Your 1735B/21. (should merchant ships be scuttled if French attempt to take them to North African ports). Yes. (1st S.L., 2156B/21 to V.A. Malta).
Situation report. 93.	Syria. Reinforcements Cyprus continue. Western Desert. LATONA and one destroyer ran supplies and personnel into Tobruk night 20/21. (C. in C. Med., 2311C/21 to Admty etc).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S. Ships. Request American ships bound for Red Sea may be routed to Aden unless it is necessary to call elsewhere. At present they are apparently being sent Mombasa for instructions. (C. in C. E.I., 0446Z/21 to Admty).

CARTHAGE RANCHI. CARTHAGE leaves patrol so as to arrive Durban a.m./23. RANCHI leaves Durban p.m./22 to carry out XYZ patrol. (C. in C. E.I., 0510Z/21 to N.O.I.C. Durban, etc).

Cargoes for Iraq. My 0656/11/6 and your 0145/17/7. Confirmed that (? embargoes) are lifted on cargoes for Iraq and on transit cargoes but warning is being given that occasional delay may occur in onward transit. My 0004/29/6 paras 2 and 3 are being amended accordingly. (C. in C. E.I., 0558Z/21 to Admty).

Bases. C. in C. E.I. 0124/9 (N.T. in W.D.) Policy re bases. (4th S.L., 1728B/21 to C.s in C. China and E.I.) See Operations Volume.

Vice-Adm. Leatham. Your 1830/18/6. V.A. Leatham will return to U.K. in DURBAN CASTLE leaving Colombo about 30/7. (C. in C. E.I., 1000Z/21 to Admty).

Iraq and Iran. Your 1755/17. Concur generally. Our two most important requirements in Persian Gulf are to be able to continue (i) reinforcements of troops and aircraft (ii) to obtain oil. Construction of alternative ports is now in hand for (i) should Basra be denied to us. No alternative scheme has been considered for ensuring our oil supply from Abadan should Shatt-el-Arab be closed. I recommend an alternative pipe line be constructed preferably to Koweit, for reasons given in my predecessor's 2032/26/6.
In view of vital importance of this matter expresse in para. (x) of (? statement) it is hoped any political difficulties raised will be overcome. (C. in C. E.I., 1442Z/21 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

JADE French.	Arrived 20/7. (Hong Kong, 0216Z/21 to M. of W.T.)
U.S.11.B.	Your 1730/19. Escort for (a) can be provided on China Station. (C. in C. China, 0247Z/21 to Admty).
FRANCOIS L.D. French.	Arrived 20/7. (Saigon, 0415Z/21 to M. of W.T.)
Japanese Tugs Malaya.	Unnecessary risk to our security in allowing traffic even by day of Japanese lighters and tugs between harbours and ships lying up to 5 miles outside harbour mouth on East Coast Malaya and West Coast Jahore. Suggestions if Japanese go into Indo-China Southern Bases. (C. in C. China 0445Z/21 to Admty).
BOUGAINVILLE French.	Sunda Straits passed 19/7 Reunion to Saigon. (C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0853Z/21 to Admty).
Bases.	Policy (4th S.L., 1728B/21 to Cs. in C. China, and E.I.) See Operations Volume.
Japan.	Chiefs of Staff No. F.E. 16 to C. in C. Far East (1st S.L. 1819B/21 to C. in C. China. W.O. 2100/21 to C. in C. Far East.) See Lion and Tiger Copies.

America and West Indies.

T.C. 12.	Your 1029P/20. HARVESTER and RIPLEY will join T.C. 12 in position (B) at 1100Z/23. (C.C.N.F., 0246Z/21 to R.A. 3).

/RICHMOND.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RICHMOND CASTLE, BANGALORE, collision.	Following message intercepted 1105 G.M.T. from RICHMOND CASTLE begins. In collision with S.S. BANGALORE 001° 07' N., 042° W., towage required 1050 G.M.T./20 (ends). Am proceeding to assistance 285 miles eastward at 2300 G.M.T./20. (CAPSA, 0245 G.M.T./21 to Admty).
BANGALORE reported sunk.	My 0245 G.M.T./21. RICHMOND CASTLE reports BANGALORE sunk by gunfire 1245 G.M.T. Proceeding under our own steam to Trinidad, 1250 G.M.T./21 (ends). I am proceeding on voyage. (CAPSA, 1415 G.M.T./21 to Admty, C. in C. Plymouth).
S.O.S., 10/7.	Br. CITY OF EDINBURGH and Br. CLAN FERGUSON intercepted following signal 10/7 S.O.S. 2048 G.M.T., 004.19 N., 034.35 W. (ends) Signal ignored account incorrect form. U.S. Ships MORMACREY Uruguay JEFFERSON MYERS exchanged signals about distress call but continued voyage in absence further particulars. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1121R/21 to Admty, C. in C. A.W.I.)
EASTERN CITY.	Understand EASTERN CITY'S aircraft being serviced at Montreal. If this is acceptable to D.E.M.S. Air Officer, Halifax, vessel should be sailed on completion of loading to Sydney C.B. for Convoy. Otherwise vessel should be sailed Halifax in accordance with A.M. 1912B/18. (D.T.D., 1310B/21 to N.C.S.O. Montreal). Your 1310B/21 ship sailed 1735Z/21 for Halifax in accordance with your 1912/18. (N.C.S.O., Montreal 1830Z/21 to Admty).
H.X. 140 Escorts.	Your 1611P/19. C.O.A.C. Halifax has been requested to order ORILLIA to proceed to St. Johns, N.F. from Western R/V. (C.C.N.F., 1334Z/21 to R.A. 3).
S.S. NORFOLK.	Salved NORFOLK, Canada S.S. Line Montreal. Ship was aground at Miquelon. (Tug PRUDENCE, 1400/21 to C.C.N.F.)
DESPATCH, suspicious flares.	Bermuda arrival U.S. Y.60 Departure DESPATCH to investigate flares seen 200 miles east of Bermuda. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1603Q/21 to Admty).

/Rocket.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

21.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Rocket Signal 0113 G.M.T.	A message from S.S. JEFFERSON MEYERS at 0113 G.M.T. 33.19 N., 60.39 W., states she has sighted four rockets at short intervals and is conducting a search. She will stand by until daylight and conduct further search. (A.L.U.S.N.A., 1605/21 to Admty).
St. Johns Base.	Negotiations and plans. (B.A.D. Washington, 1615R/21 to Admty).
Trinidad bunkers.	Following estimate of monthly arrivals at Trinidad for bunkers is based on their present routeing policy. Suggestions. (D.T.D. 1630B/21 17433/22 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad and C. in C. A.W.I.)
AURANIA.	Repetition ARMUK 628. Admiralty from B.A.R.M 18/7. AURANIA can be accepted. Yard will be communicated when docking details are received. Job. No. 147 (B.A.C. (Cypher Office) 1650/21 to Admty).
SURCOUF.	Will be taken at Portsmouth New Hampshire. Instructions. (D.O.D. (F) 1652B/21 to C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.S.)
A.M.C. Reliefs.	Your 1754P/20. Proposed arrangements are quite suitable. (D.O.D. (F) 1752B/21 to F.O. 3 B.S.)
WIPUNEN (Finnish).	Your 1828/18. WIPUNEN arrived Rio de Janeiro 17/7. (D.T.D. 1820B/21 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Australia.

U.S.11 B. U.S. 12 Escorts.	Your 1730B/19 confirmed. (A.C.N.B., 1256Z/21 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 21.7.1941. Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

TRECARELL (torpedoed 4/6 ?) — Torpedoed and then abandoned, before 0515/4/6, 47° N., 31.04 W, 450 N. of Flores Is., Azores. Ex. O.B. 327. (D.S. 685, 21/7.)

ANSELM (torpedoed 5/7.) — Time and position of torpedoing now reported as 0937/5 in 47.25 N., 28.35 W. (014° Flores Is., Azores 480') but latitude is doubted. (D.S. 685, 21/7.)

Submarines Reported.

18/7. — HEYTHROP reports Swedish Tanker SATURNUS passed Faroes 18th Northwards heavily laden. Tanker reported sighting U-Boat about 50 miles S. of Faroes but was allowed to proceed. (A.C.I.C. 1014/21 to Admty.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1443B/21.)

1240 G.M.T. — By D/F in area 49° to 50° N. 19° to 20° W. (D.D.I.C. 1545B/21.)

1346 G.M.T. — By D/F in 62° N. 3° E. unreliable fix. Probably outward bound. (D.D.I.C. 1546B/21.)

19/7. — Reliably reported that a U-boat was in San Pedro Bay St. Vincent Island during night of 19/7. (B.C. St. Vincent, 1722/21, to Admty.)

1630. — Following message intercepted by B T N I 110 Special Wireless Section (begins): "Received your message that submarine was sighted in Territorial Waters at Dunmanus Bay at 1630 hours today." (Ends.) Originator's Code name COBBER Addressee's Code name CANNON. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 2015B/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

18/7. — Russian communique dated 18/7 states a German U/B struck a mine and sank in Varanger Fjord, N.W. of Rybachi Peninsula. (D.S. 685, 21/7.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

SCHARNHORST. R/C of Brest at 2130/21 showed that the camouflage had been removed from the bow and stern of SCHARNHORST and the A.T. boom had been moved to the southward. There were still 5 destroyers present. All M.T.B's at the Nore, Portsmouth and Dover were brought to one hour's notice for steam, armed with torpedoes. At 1145 R/C showed that SCHARNHORST and 4 destroyers had left. Ships at Scapa were brought to short notice for steam and M.T.B.'s from Nore and Portsmouth were ordered to concentrate at Dover. Air searches and cover for shipping west of Gibraltar were arranged.

MINERVE sailed this evening for patrol north east of the Faeroes.

British Air Operations.

Six Blenheims of Bomber Command, escorted by Spitfires successfully attacked the shipyards at Le Trait today. 6 Wellingtons attacked Cherbourg Docks last night.

A vessel, possibly SCHARNHORST, was reported by aircraft today, stationary off Cherbourg, 11 Beauforts, with fighter escort, were despatched at 2100 to attack, but visibility was not good and the ship was not sighted.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C.49 was reported bombed at 2323 in 52° 58' N. 1° 57' E. S.S. MONKWOOD sustained very minor damage. The enemy A/C was shot down by the combined fire of the ships and escort. It is reported that GARTH, escorting, was slightly damaged by a near miss.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operation S.N.21 B.

A further minelaying operation north of the Butt of Lewis was commenced today by TEVIOT BANK with SCOTT.

Minelaying was suspected last night off Spurn Point, Harwich and Lands End.

A small unknown vessel apparently blew up and was destroyed at 1925 today off Coull Point.

South Atlantic.

DUNEDIN at 0030Z today intercepted Vichy French VILLE DE ROUEN in 19° 32' S. 11° 12' W. The ship did not attempt to scuttle herself and is being sent under armed guard to Simonstown.

Mediterranean.

An important statement on policy appears in C. in C. Med. 1330/22 to Admiralty.

Operation "Substance"

Force H. was sighted and reported by shadowing A/C at 0850, 1510 and 1800. At 2315 the force was unsuccessfully attacked by torpedo from submarine. NESTOR attacked a contact, possibly with success.

Air attack on convoy.

4 Blenheims today attacked a convoy of 4 merchant vessels and 5 destroyers southbound off Pantellaria. One ship of 7000 tons was hit and later seen with only her stern above water. One ship of 6000 tons was hit, and one of 5000 tons, believed to be carrying ammunition blew up and disappeared. The attack on the 2 remaining ships of the convoy escorted by a single destroyer was continued at dusk by 5 Swordfish with torpedoes who claim to have sunk one of the two ships, namely a 7000 ton tanker and to have severely damaged a destroyer by a hit in the stern.

/Suez .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Canal Zone. — About 5 aircraft attacked the Suez Canal Zone in the early hours of this morning. Naval damage was insignificant and the terminal port situation is unchanged.

Operation M.E.5. — The Fleet sailed today (presumably in connection with convoy SUBSTANCE.)

U-Boat Campaign.

There were indications at 1930 today that Convoy H.G.68 had been reported by a U.boat.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

WORCESTERSHIRE — Will be ready for service 31/7.
2. Admty decision is requested whether to be sailed with W.S. 10 to Western limit of A/S escort thence independently to Halifax or with O.B. 353 in order to obtain A/S escort for entire passage. (F.O.C.N.P., 1240B/22).

ESPERANCE BAY, MORETON BAY. — To be reconverted to Trade on arrival in U.K. from present convoy escort duties. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1646B/22).

Movements.

LONDON. — Steer 180°.
(1st S.L., 0153B/22 to LONDON).
Cancel A.M. 0153B/22. Proceed in execution of previous orders. (1st S.L., 1059B/22 to LONDON)
Proceed with all despatch to Scapa.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1201B/22 to LONDON).

NIGER, SALAMANDER, HALCYON. — Your 2335B/21. Intend sailing NIGER and SALAMANDER 1000/23. R/V for HALCYON 1100/23 at 28 buoy. E.T.A., Scapa 2030/23.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1121/22).

VAN KINSBERGEN. — My 1027B/20. Amend destination to read Liverpool (C. in C. W.A., 1144B/22 to VAN KINSBERGEN).

EURYALUS. — EURYALUS and CROOME (as close A.A. escort) are to sail from Rosyth 0800 to-morrow and to proceed to Scapa to arrive by 2200/23.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1755/22).
Owing to engine defect in EURYALUS movements in my 1755/22 postponed 24 hours. EURYALUS and CROOME are to sail at 0800/24. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2203/22).

MALAYA. — My 1357B/19 and your 1632B/21 and my 1647B/22.
MALAYA may leave convoy after passing longitude 10° W. You are requested to arrange R/V with escort as convenient.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1850B/22 to C. in C. H.F.)

/A.F.D. IV.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

A.F.D.IV. To be transferred from Devonport to Clyde. Arrangements and sailing date. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1918B/22). See Lion Copy.

ADVENTURE. Information for her. (Admiral Miles 2224C/22) See Operations Volume.

Operations.

M.T.B.'s All M.T.B.'s are to be at one hours notice for Sea, armed with torpedoes.
(1st S.L. 0215B/22 to C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth., V.A. Dover.)
My 0215B/22. M.T.B.'s are to concentrate at Dover. (A.C.N.S. H., 1238B/22).
All Available M.T.B.'s are to be sailed for Dover forthwith. (C. in C. Nore, 1300B/22 to BEEHIVE).

KING GEORGE V.
NIGERIA,
AURORA,
SHROPSHIRE.
C.S.I
V.A.2. Keep steam at 1 hours notice. (C. in C. H.F., 1247/22).

DEVONSHIRE,
SUFFOLK. Keep steam at one hours notice. (C. in C. H.F., 1616B/22).

Operation. A.C.N.S. (H) 1338B/22, C. in C. Nore, 1820B/22. See Operations Volume.

Two A/S Sweeps. GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE are to carry out A/S sweep between 054° 30' N., and 056° N., and longitudes 015° and 020° W., (ii) PIORUN is to R/V with VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA in 055° N., 10° W., at 0700B/23.
(iii) VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA, PIORUN are to carry out A/S sweep between 54° 30' N., and 56° N., and longitudes 010° 015° W. (iv) both sweeps to commence from Eastern limit at 0700B/23 and cover largest area in time available (v) aircraft will co-operate (vi) destroyer to proceed to Iceland in time to fuel and be ready to sail at 1200B/25. (C. in C. W.A., 1549B/22).

S/M Patrol. SOKOL Patrol St. Catherines - 0500/23. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1607B/22).

S/M safety Area. Surface ships may not attack submarines in area. (as A.C.O.S., 1949B/21) (D.O.D. H., 1810B/22).

MOST SECRET

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0202/22).
STAND will be flown later in the day.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1152/22).
One Catalina is carrying out a cross over patrol from approx. 1800/22 till 0300/23 through following position. (C. in C. W.A., 1713/22).

Cherbourg Docks.

Attacked during Night 21/22. Small fires started. (H.Q.B.C., 1440/22) See Lion Copy.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy E.C.

Request fighter protection in 55° 13' N., 1° 18' W.
(SOUTHDOWN, 0020B/22).

SAN ROBERTO UMVUMA (Bombed 20/7).

Both docked Immingham. No casualties.
(F.O.Humber, 1034B/22).

HERESKE (Trawler attacked).

Skipper reports being machine gunned by 4-engined enemy A/C at 0650/19, 12 miles W.N.W. Blasket Island. No damage or casualties.
Skipper also reports that single enemy aircraft were observed daily at intervals of 45 minutes between 0600 and 0930 approaching from S.E., making Blaskets, flying off W.N.W., returning on reciprocal course during evening. (A2).
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1221B/22).

Convoy E.C.

Enemy Aircraft are bombing convoy YIELD. My position 52° 58' N., 1° 57' E.
(VALOROUS 2323/22).

Mining.

Tyne.

Northernmost Approach to Channel to Tyne closed.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0138/22).

N.L. 4
N.L. 10

Intend to carry out operation N.L. 4 tonight.
(V.A. Dover 0944B/22).
Two M.L.'s will be operating close to the coast off Boulogne tonight Tuesday. Request arrangements be made that they shall on no account be illuminated by flares from friendly aircraft.
(V.A. Dover 0945B/22 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.B.C.)
Early report is required of results of enquiry into failure of M.T.B.'s to carry out operation ordered by you in your 2001/20.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1315B/22 to V.A. Dover).

/Cancel my.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

N.L. 4
N.L.10
Contd.

Cancel my 0944B/22. Intend to carry out operation N.L. 10 tonight. (V.A. Dover 1351B/22). Three M.L.'s leave Dover at 2345 to operate between Gris Nez and Calais returning at 0315/23 route via North East Varne each way. (V.A. Dover 1605B/22).

Plymouth.

Two Acoustic Mines detonated at 1550 and 1610 by S.A. Gear. Details. (C. in C. Plymouth 1006/22).

Small vessel mined.

Reported a large cloud of white smoke seen on water 255° Coull Point look out 4 miles 1925 no explosions heard. Portnahaven look out 4 reports that a small vessel was in vicinity just previous no sign of vessel now. Smoke cloud dispersed after about 10 minutes. No vessel seen before or after by Coull Point Look Out. T.O.O. 1935B/22. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1950B/22).

S.N. 21 B.

Arrival TEVIOT BANK. (N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 2149B/22).

Russian minefield.

Admiral Mlos 2224C/22, See Operations Volume. (ADVENTURE - Movements Section).

Enemy Intelligence.

SCHARNHORST.

R/C of Brest at 2130/21 shows camouflage has been removed from bow and stern of SCHARNHORST and A.T. Boom has been moved to Southward. Five destroyers were still present. (D.D.I.C. 0218B/22 to A.I.G. 17, F.O.(S) 0154B/22 to S/Ms area A.).
SCHARNHORST has left Port of Brest and is not seen in Rade which is fully photographed. Her usual berth is now occupied by 530 foot tanker. Four Destroyers have also left port and Rade but one still berthed at Jetee De L'Ouest. GNEISENAU and HIPPER Cruiser at usual positions. (P.R.U. St. Eval 1430/22 to H.Q.C.C.)
My 1211B/22. R/C of Brest at 1145/22 confirms that SCHARNHORST is not present. (D.D.I.C., 1500B/22 to A.I.G. 62, 21. H.Q.C.C.)
H.M.S. TRIDENT patrolling vicinity of 047° 38' 005° 40' between 2330B/21 and 0200B/22 then 330° 11 knots. Saw nothing. (TRIDENT, 1549B/22).

/Enemy Vessels....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

Enemy Vessels. On return to harbour at 1255 to-day C.O. H.S.L. 125 reported seeing a high speed surface craft 5 miles to the eastward of 52° 05' N., 02° 20' E. steering east and heard on R/T the words "Achtung Achtung". (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1314B/22).

Brest. Supplementary to 1145/22. (P.R.U. St. Eval, 1615/22).

Shipping and Convoys.

F.S. Code Words. Code words for F.S. convoys allocated as follows:- F.S. 49 PLUMB, F.S. 50 EVIDENCE, F.S. 51 ATTACHE, F.S. 52 BREAST, F.S. 53 MERIT, F.S. 54 PARALLEL, F.S. 55 BOOTY, F.S. 56 ARENA, F.S. 57 OCEAN, F.S. 58 PLUMB, F.S. 59 EVIDENCE. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1217/22 to Rosyth Escort Force).

H.X. 136. Met as arranged. All ships present and arrived. Fair weather. (D.T.D., 1307B/22 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Cargoes and numbers (D.S. 685).

Convoy Escorts. On Northern Routes. (C. in C. W.A., 1307B/22 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

O.B. 346 My 1254B/22. Ships for South Africa are to be recalled and rejoin Convoy pending further instructions. (D.T.D., 1609B/22 to LANDGUARD and Escorts. O.B. 346).

Mersigs. Desired to bring Mersigs into force in North Atlantic as soon as possible. Report by signal as soon as distribution to H.X. Ships in your command has been completed. (D.T.D. 1745B/22 to C. in C. A.W.I., C.C.N.F. etc).

Balloons. Will not be flown by Merchant ships in harbour at Scapa and Lyness at a height greater than 300 feet. (A.C.O.S., 1807B/22 to 18 and 14 Groups).

BRITANNIC Desired to sail to Liverpool from Clyde on 23/7. Will be ready to return to Clyde on 25 or 26/7. Request to arrange sailing and provide A/A escort. (D.O.D. (H) 1843B/22 to C. in C. W.A.)

/DUNNOTTAR.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.	Your 1116/21. Intended that DUNNOTTAR CASTLE should leave U.K. with Convoy W.S. 10 (date). (D.O.D.(H) 1845/22 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).
W.S.10.	My 1132B/16. Date of sailing. (D.O.D. (H) 1846B/22 to Cs. in C. etc). See Operations Volume.
Norwegian BELRAY, BELPARELL and BELNOR.	Peculiarly valuable vessels. Only to be sailed in Atlantic north of 5° S., and E. of 50° W. either in convoy or with a special escort of not less than one A/S vessel. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1929B/22 to A.I.G. 21).
S.C. 36.	All present at R/V and now arrived. Fair Weather (D.T.D. 1933B/22 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 685).
C.A.M. Ships.	C.A.M.s whose ahead view is wooded by catapult and aircraft are when in air danger area to be stationed in convoy as follows (A) by day-Leader of a wing column (B) by night-Leader of an inner column. When outside the air danger area they should be stationed as for (B). (C. in C. W.A., 2201B/22 to N.C.S.O.'s)(Repeated in D.T.D., 1963B/24).
Bofors Guns.	Analysis of 28 actions between merchant ships with Bofors guns and enemy A/C's (A.C.N.S. (T) 2252B/22 to F.O.'s I.C. etc). See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. (D.D.I.C., 1911B/22) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

MALVERNIAN (bombed 1/7) — Bombed by German four-engined bomber 1/7 0830 G.M.T. 047° N. 019° W. Master left vessel 19/7 297° 190 miles Cape Prior still floating. 32 members of crew including master arrived Corunna 21/7 in French sailing fishing boat. Steel chest containing secret documents thrown overboard some 1700 fathoms of water. Information obtained from master. (Guyatt, Corunna, 0010/22, to Admty.)
My 1104. Local Naval Authorities ask me to state urgently in writing whether "Any of survivors of British Merchant Vessel MALVERNIAN, arrived at this Port, belong to R.N. or British Naval Reserve". Request reply. (Consul, Vigo, 1508/22 to N.A. Madrid).

Gibraltar Convoys. — My 2131B/16. One sloop will be attached to each group as S.O. DEPTFORD will sail with Group 32. (C. in C. W.A., 1028B/22 to F.O.C.N.A).

Submarines. TALISMAN THUNDERBOLT. O;24. — TALISMAN docked for repairs. Intend sailing her for Malta P.M./29. THUNDERBOLT, 8 days in harbour in last 40 days, is being docked for renewal of bottom composition. Intend sailing her for Malta P.M./31. Intend sailing Netherlands S/M O.24 for patrol in Gulf of Genoa and North Tyrrhenean sea P.M./28. (F.O.C.N.A., 1506B/22 to C. in C. Med.)

CORINTHIAN. — F.O.C.N.A. 1722B/19. To avoid possible submarines, alter course forthwith to pass through 32° N., 28° W. 31° 30' N. 16° W. thence direct to Gibraltar or as routed by F.O.C.N.A. (D.O.D.(F) 1645B/22 to CORINTHIAN).

ISAC French. — Cargo summary. Damage through sabotage not serious and can be repaired in approx. 14 days. Officers and crew pro British and some may join Free French. Sabotage committed to fulfil instructions but care taken not to endanger ship. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 1758/22 to Admty.)

CAUDEBEC. LE TRAIT. (French) — My 1027/16 para. 2. These French Merchant ships arrived Setubal 19/7 with 300 tons phosphate. (N.A. Lisbon 1817/22 to Admty.)

/Catalina....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

Catalina attacked by own A/C.

Catalina AH 538 reports being attacked at 1830B/22 by two Fulmars in 038° 00' N. 003° 55' E. Catalina damaged and returning to Gibraltar, gunner wounded. (F.O.C.N.A. 2058B/22 to S.O. Force H).

GROUIN DU COU (intercepted 3/7).

Returned from H.G. 68 unable to maintain convoy speed. No trial was possible before sailing, but master instructed to return to Gibraltar if unable to keep up. Now ascertained ship can only carry 15 days bunkers, late master's estimate of consumption having been incorrect. Considered after boiler overhaul and docking speed might be increased to 7½ knots. Request instructions. (F.O.C.N.A. 2224B/22 to Admty.)

Patrol F.

Patrol F will not be carried out. A/C diverted westward to cover convoys against SCHARNHORST. RENOWN pass this and my 2058B/22 to ARK ROYAL. (F.O.C.N.A. 2248B/22 to S.O. Force H).

VIZCAYA. (Spanish).

Following from M.E.W. Release VIZCAYA, question of passengers will be taken up with Bilbao. (D.E.W.D. 2308B/22 to C.C.S.O. Gib.).

South Atlantic.

A.M.C's, reliefs.

F.O.C. 3rd. B.S. 1754/20. These dates are suitable and if kept will be unnecessary for either MORETON BAY or ESPERANCE BAY to return to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 0019N/22 to Admty.)

BARHAM.

Request you will provide any facilities possible. B.P. target is at Simonstown. Will C. in C. Med. say if he would like BARHAM to proceed there. (C. in C. S.A., 0021N/22 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

HIMALAYA. Italian.

Rio de Janeiro reports loading proceeding slowly and should be completed about 26/28/7. Ship has not yet bunkered. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 0121Z/22 to S.A.D.)

/PULASKI.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

PULASKI, accommodation.	Your 0759/19. Reply. Having in mind above considerations and shortage of accommodation from South Africa to M.E. can not agree that numbers on board be reduced. (D. of S.T. 0505B/22 to C. in C. S.A).
HIMALAYA. Italian.	May not be fully loaded before 26/28/7. She is not yet bunkered. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1132N/22 to Admty.)
R.D.F. Reception Freetown.	C. in C. S.A's 2231N/17. Not understood how type 286 transmissions on 214 Mc/s could be received on type 279 receiver. GALATEA to report at first convenient opportunity. (D.S.D. 1308B/22 to C. in C. S.A., GALATEA).
RICHMOND CASTLE BANGALORE (Collision 21/7)	My 1607/21. RICHMOND CASTLE now reports BANGALORE sunk and is proceeding (? unaided) to Trinidad. (C. in C. S.A. 1345N/22 to CILICIA).
Greek King and Ministers.	Ready to leave Union in escorted convoy if accommodation could be provided in DURBAN CASTLE. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1729B/22 to C. in C. S.A).
Italian Repatriations.	Your 1219/17/7. Second. Prefer Mombasa not Capetown. (C. in C.S.A. 2045N/22 to Admty.).

Mediterranean.

Cyprus.	Report for week ending 19/7. (Govr., Cyprus to S. of S. for Colonies, recd. 0115/22) See Lion Copy.
Enemy Units.	P.C. and S. of 4 enemy destroyers 4 M.Vs. was 37.18 N., 12.00 E.180°9 knots at 0910. (Med. A/C duty T., 0918Z/22 to Hal Far) (S.O. (S) Malta, 1010B/22 to URSULA). 1230B/22. 2 Merchant ships P.C. and S. of enemy is 036° 20' 012° 10' 170° 8 knots. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1440B/22 to URSULA).

/4.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units -Contd.

4 medium merchant ships 036° 30' 011° 55' course 193° 9 knots at 1530B/22. 2 destroyers ahead, 2 astern, one on port beam. Proceed to intercept. (S.O. (S) Malta, 1655B/22, to URSULA).
Single escorted Northbound merchant ship expects to pass W. of Lampedusa at about 0330/23 speed about 15 knots. (V.A. Malta, 1940B/22 to URSULA).
Cancelled: see 0006/23.
P.C. and S. of enemy 4 destroyers 3 merchant vessels (? 165°) 36° N., 12° E., 17 190° 10. (Med. A/C duty P., 1945/22 to Hal Far).
P.C. and S. of 4 destroyers 3 merchant vessels are 170 36° N. 12° E. 21 480 (as cyphered ?180) 8 knots. (Med. A/C duty P. 2025/22 to Med. A/C).
Enemy are in straight line ahead or formed on a Line of Bearing 270°. (Med. A/C duty P., T.O.R. 2132/22).
4 destroyers 3 merchant ships 035° 39' N. 012° 04' E. course 190° 10 knots at 2025B/22. (V.A. Malta 2052B/22 to URSULA).

BARHAM.

Admty. 1836/16. Proposed programme. (BARHAM 0931Z/22 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I.)

Benghazi bombed.

Night 20/21. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing fires and explosions on Julian and Cathedral Moles. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1017/22).

UNION presumed lost.

UNION, Lieut. R.M. Galloway, now 50 hours overdue and failed to reply when ordered to report her position during night of 20/21. Left Malta on 14/7 to intercept a northbound convoy in 036° 40' N. 012° 00' E. where it was expected during afternoon 15/7. P.33 attacked this convoy in vicinity of 036° 27' N. 011° 54' E. at 1400/15 and was very heavily counter attacked. On 16/7 UNION was ordered to carry out special operation as in my 1205B/16. Information since received from agent that he did not go to rendezvous as he was being followed. It is thought UNION was lost during attack on convoy and Admty. 1655B/20 probably refers. P.33 however states that no attack or depth charging was heard by him subsequent to the counter attack he survived. Not considered books held by UNION are compromised. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1023B/22 to Capt. (S) 1);

/NUBIAN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

NUBIAN.	Anticipate NUBIAN will be ready for passage to Bombay for repairs about 2/8. As ship will jury rudder with upper deck steering and temporary bulkhead aft, desirable she should proceed in company with fast transport or M.V. P.S.T.O. Egypt requested to report what ships are available (C. in C. Med.11460/22 to M.W.T. Alexandria, C. in C. E.I).
Suez Canal Raid.	Estimated 5-6 planes raided canal area 03000 to 04350/22. Two bombs Kabret Naval Camp, galley demolished, two ratings slightly injured. Four bombs Ismailia no Naval damage or casualties Canal and terminal port situation unchanged. (H.Q., R.A.F. M.E., 1017/22, S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 12130/22) See also 0925/23.
Main Fleet.	AJAX, LEANDER, JERVIS, KANDAHAR, KINGSTON, JAGUAR leave Haifa 14000/22 proceeding direct to R/V B.S.1. off Alexandria at 06000/?23. (F.O.7 C.S. 12390/22 to Med. Fleet etc.)
W.S.9A2.	Convoy W.S.9A2 arrived 0815/21. (N.C.S.O. Suez 12450/22 to Admty.)
Cyprus.	C. in C. Med., 1330/22 to Admty. See Mediterran Volume.
FORMIDABLE.	My 2103/17. FORMIDABLE will have six Swordfish aircraft only embarked. (C. in C. Med., 1340 /22 to Admty.)
PARTHIAN.	Admiralty's 2109B/11. List of defects. (Capt. S.1. 17010/22 to C. in C. Med.)
TETRARCH PERSEUS.	Leave patrol as necessary to enter sanctuary Alexandria 05070/?31. Pass through Scarpanto Channel then direct. PERSEUS is expected to pass Kaso Strait 27th proceeding direct to Alexandria, If circumstances permit examine North coast of Samos. U-boats have been reported in port Vathi and large numbers of troops are said to be in Island. (Capt. S.1. 18030/22 to TETRARCH).

/Operation....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Operation M.E.3.	Para. 12. Force C. Add CARLISLE, is to leave harbour a.m. D.3 to R/V Force C. at 0600 D.3 as ordered by 607 A.1. (C. in C. Med., 18240/28 to S. and A. concerned).
Fuel and Stores, Malta.	Your 1037B/22 (not to Admty). Please send maximum possible quantity of aviation spirit which can be spared on every occasion of submarines proceeding from Gibraltar to Malta and as much as possible of outstanding stores shown in my 1915B /2 (repeated to you as 1205B/6 and which were not covered by your 2114B/14. (Govr. Malta., 2015B/22 to A. S. Gibraltar).
Crete, intelligence.	Information from four soldiers who escaped from Suda Bay 16/7 re British Officers and men at large at various places, and German patrols. (Capt. S.1., 22310/22 to THRASHER).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

W.S. 9 A. Convoy W.S. 9 A. and HECTOR arrived. (S.O.(I) Bombay, 0806Z/22 N.C.O.S. Bombay, 0841Z/22 to Admty).

CALEDON U.S.11 A. Sailed CALEDON to join convoy U.S.11 A. (N.O.I.C., Aden, 0902Z/22 to Admty).

Mine Watching. Admty 1755/17 and my 1034/16. Development of mine watching organization cannot (? proceed) until acquisition of these barges is approved. Only 4 barges can be prepared per month. S.N.O. Persian Gulf has been directed to purchase (?all) four. (C. in C. E.I., 1140Z/22 to Admty).

C.M. 14. EXETER escorting convoy C.M. 14 sailed E.T.A. Aden 0600Z/5. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1350Z/22 to N.O.I.C. Aden etc. N.C.S.O. Durban, 1600Z/22 to Admty).

ALSEY. Has returned to Aden unable to make headway against monsoon after passing Ras Hafun. Request permission to use her for dan buoying purposes in connection with Minesweeping at Massawa. (S.N.O.R.S., 1707Z/22 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Sarawak. My 0831/21. Demolition plans, Sarawak Oil Fields. (C. in C. China, 0919Z/22 to Admty).

Japanese Plans. F.E.W. 40. (C.O.I.S., Far East, 1036Z/22 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

Japanese Shipping. Printed sailing lists of Japanese M.V.'s withdrawn both English and Japanese language press from 22/7. Shipping offices will accept bookings up to Mid-September, July 30 supply schedules. No reason given for withdrawing this information. (N.A. Tokyo, 1142/22 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 22.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PARTHIAN. Can be taken (?about) 15/9. Admty pass to C. in C. Med., and F.O.(S). (B.A.R.M., 0150/22 to Admty).

EMILE BERTIN. Trinidad reports Master of U.S. Ship ALCOA SHIPPER which visited Guadaloupe and Martinique recently stated no sign of French cruiser EMILE BERTIN He believes EMILE BERTIN sailed about 10/7. Rumour that she is carrying gold to Dakar. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1009/Q/22 to Admty).

CARADOC. Leave Bermuda 25/7 and carry out following programme. German prisoners and bullion for Jamaica are to be embarked before sailing vide my 1002Q/16 to CARADOC and N.O.I.C. Bermuda only. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1132Q/22 to CARADOC).

RAMILLIES. Have steam for full speed at one hours notice. (R.A. 3 1231P/22 to RAMILLIES.)

SURCOUF. Leave Bermuda 25/7 and proceed by most direct route to Portsmouth New Hampshire. Adjust speed to arrive on 28/7 in compliance with Admty 1652B /21. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1232Q/22 to SURCOUF.)

RICHMOND CASTLE. Following received at 0010 G.M.T. (from RICHMOND CASTLE) to, Navy Control Trinidad. BANGALORE sank 1245 GMT/21. Am proceeding Trinidad bow extensively damaged. Can ship berth alongside jetty as both anchors cannot be used? (Bermuda, 1500 G.M.T./22 to Admty).

Westbound Escorts. Refers to A.C.I.C.'s 2231/21. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1539Z/22).

T.C.12. MALAYA escorting EMPRESS OF CANADA, ORION, DUCHESS OF YORK, STRATHMORE, STRATHNAVER, with HAVELOCK, HESPERUS, COLUMBIA, BUXTON, ASSINIBOINE and RESTIGOUCHE as A/S escorts, left Halifax 1500Z /21 routed as in my 1029P/20. My 1714P/21 contains list of important stores in MALAYA. (R.A. 3 1711P/22 to Admty etc).

H.X. 141. C.C.N.F. 2359Z/20, request you detail a destroyer for H.X. 141.(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1948Z/22 to C.O.A.C. Halifax) Reply: None available. (0345/23).

South Greenland Patrols. OPNAV reports cancellation of patrols groups 2.6 and 2.8 (A.L.U.S.N.A.,2050/22 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

TEIFUKU MARU ex. R.C. RICKMERS.	Capt. O.S. Singapore 0351Z/16. In the event of this or similar vessels being sighted are they to be considered German or Japanese? (A.C.N.B., 1318Z/22 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

22.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

GUELMA (torpedoed 17/7). C.A.F.O. 770/40 (A) British GUELMA (4402 G.T.) (B) torpedoed 1630 G.M.T./17. 30.44 N., 17.33 W. (C) Overboard in steel box including confidential mail from Consul Funchal to Freetown. (D) Overboard in weighted eyeletted bag. Deep water. (F) Ship sank at once on being hit by second torpedo after crew had abandoned. U boat did not board her. (G) Master (2) U-Boat surfaced and identified by survivors as being Italian Sirena class. (3) Entire crew rescued by THUNDERBOLT. No casualties. (4) THUNDERBOLT reports no operational difficulties as a result of the 43 survivors embarked. (F.O.C.N.A., 1142/22 to Admty)

S/M Reported.

2145 G.M.T./21. Bearing of Italian U-boat 88F at 2145 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 0044B/22).

2132 G.M.T./21. By D/F at 2132 G.M.T. U-boat in 50° N., 19° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 0045B/22).

My 2317A/21 (? 0017B/21 intended) Further bearings indicates U-boat was within 20 miles 034° 53' N., 014° 10' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0107A/22 to N.A. Stn).

0515 G.M.T. At 0515 G.M.T. Italian S/M call sign 42V bearing 270/2 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 0703B/22). My 0703B/22nd. Further bearings indicate Italian S/M was in vicinity of 036° 00' N., 012° 30' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1201B/22).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1443B/22).

2052Z. Submarine sighted 044° 28' N., 060° 10' W. (Halifax N.S., orginator not stated 2052Z/22 to Admty) Not confirmed see 2125/23).

S/Ms attacked.

By A/C. GANDER report A/C bombed suspicious streak in 046° 17' N., 052° 48' W., at 1205Z/22. Nothing further observed. (C.C.N.F. 1506Z/22 to Area 7).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

ADVENTURE left Scapa at 0111 today to operate with the Russian Naval forces in the north

SCHARNHORST

Photographic R/C of La Pallice at 0915B today showed SCHARNHORST and 4 destroyers to be present. The SCHARNHORST was protected by nets and later R/C showed that she was camouflaged. Permission was given for M.T.Bs. to return to their respective bases.

It is reported from Moscow that aircraft sighted 4 German destroyers at 2200C (presumably 22/7) in 70° 12' N. 37° 12' E. (off Kola Peninsula) steering 200° at 16 knots.

British Air Operations.

SCHARNHORST at La Pallice was attacked this evening by Bomber Command aircraft, who claim a direct hit or near miss on the ship.

11 Bomber Command aircraft last night attacked the docks at Dunkirk. Minor attacks were made on Rotterdam and Ostend.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler BRACON BRAE was bombed and damaged at 1700 today 8 miles east of Fuglo Island, Faeroes.

A Hudson A/C escorting Convoy O.G.69 is reported to have shot down a F.W. at 0802, 130 miles west of Blacksod Bay.

Great Yarmouth was bombed at 0145 today. No damage or casualties were caused.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operation N.L.21.

Two M.L's from Dover laid mines last night between Gris Nez and Calais.
7 aircraft laid mines last night off Brest.

Hull

S.S. CRAIGLAS and STARSTONE were damaged and 3 lighters were sunk by explosion at 0750 today in Alexandra Dock, Hull, attributed to a mine laid on the night 3/4 May.

South Atlantic.

Five Italian merchantmen are known to have left South American ports.
S.S. ERLANGEN (German) is reported to have left Mar del Plata at 2230 G.M.T. today.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Substance"

Force H and Convoy, rendezvoused at 0730. The forces were reported by enemy aircraft at 0700 and at 0942 ~~was~~ first attacked by 6 torpedo aircraft and 8 high level bombers. Three torpedo aircraft were shot down by the Fleet. FEARLESS was hit by torpedo and had to be sunk.
MANCHESTER was hit and badly damaged and proceeded for Gibraltar at 8 knots, escorted by AVON VALE. The bombers obtained no hits and fighters from ARK ROYAL brought down at least two of them. Three Fulmars were lost but the crews were saved.
It is reported that Beaufighters sank one E-boat during attack on the Convoy p.m. today, east of Pantellaria.
During the afternoon MANCHESTER and AVON VALE and also the convoy were unsuccessfully attacked by enemy aircraft.
At 1713 Force H and NELSON parted company from Force X and Convoy, at the entrance to Skerki Channel, HERMIONE being detached to take the place of MANCHESTER with the convoy.
Force H retired westwards to cover MANCHESTER.
At 1900 Force X and Convoy were unsuccessfully attacked by torpedo bombers, and at 1945 the force was bombed in 37° 30' N. 10° 40' E. and FIREDRAKE towing a sweep was damaged and was detached to Gibraltar, towed by ERIDGE.

/UNION.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

UNION overdue. UNION which left Malta on 14/7 to intercept a northbound Tripoli convoy is 3 days overdue and must be considered lost. She failed to reply when ordered to report her position during the night 20/21 July.

Air attack on Trapani. Blenheims today attacked merchantmen at Trapani. One 7000 ton ship was hit and set on fire, one of 3000 tons received 2 direct hits and was set on fire and is believed to have been sunk.

Libya & Western Desert. Benghazi Harbour was bombed again last night. Tobruk is reported to have been bombed 3 times today.

Operation M.E. The Battle Fleet was shadowed today but was not attacked.

Syria. Normal and independant sailings of merchant vessels to Beirut have been commenced.

Cyprus. Famagusta is established as a Defended Port.

New Zealand.

A total of 96 mines laid by raider in June 1940 have been destroyed up to 18/7/41 in Hauraki Gulf and near Cuvier Island.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy O.G.68 was probably reported by an Italian U-Boat at 1808Z today.

Aircraft at 2118Z today reported a submarine in 43° 10' N. 61° 31' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Greenock, communications — Your 0134/20. Present signal arrangements here involved a grave risk of breakdown of communications in the event fore-shadowed. Request building of new signal centre here approved by your 1649/15 be given War Cabinet priority. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1005/23 to C. in C. W.A.)

ESPERANCE BAY, MORETON BAY. — Inquiring where they will pay off. (F.O.C.N.P., 1120B/23).

15th D.F. — The HUNT Class Destroyers allocated to the Plymouth Command will be known as the 15th D.F. and are administered by Captain (D) Plymouth ashore at Plymouth.
(D.O.D.(H), 2207B/23).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Yarmouth. — Table Cloth obstruction laid to date 20th July. Position. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1204B/23).

Movements.

MARSDALE. — To leave Clyde 1630B/24 for Southampton. Re fighter protection., and fighter escort and diversion necessary. (F.O.C.N.P., 0930/23 to MARSDALE).

ADVENTURE. — Arrives Seydisfiord 1800B/24 for fuel. Expect her to be in company with force P at position X but possible she may arrive position X independently,, and will require fuel.
(C.S.1. 0946B/23 to ECLIPSE, ECHO).
Informing C. in C. H.F. as Admiral Miles 2224C/22
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1616B/23).
Further re her movements (Admiral Miles, 1453C/23 1758C/23, 1806C/23) See Operations Volume.

DORSETSHIRE — Will not sail from Tyne until 0700/27.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1046/23).

POZARICA. — To join Irish Sea escort force forthwith, and is to be based at Milford Haven and operated and Administered by F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.
F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail POZARICA for Belfast, to await Southbound Convoy as ordered by F.O.I.C. Belfast.
(C. in C. W.A., 1453B/23 to POZARICA).

Cancel my 1131B/22. (Capt. (S) 3 1632B/23 to TUNA.)

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SEAWOLF, TUNA.	After passing 048° 52' N., 006° 09' W. proceed through 048° N., 006° W., and 047° N., 004° W. Further signal for details of patrols and return route for TUNA will be made. (F.O.S., 1712B/23 to SEAWOLF, TUNA).
LE TRIOMPHANT.	Instructions issued with concurrence of Admiral Commanding F.N.F.L. for proceeding with passengers for Tahiti. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2344B/23 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations.

S/M saftey area.	A.M. 1810B/22 precludes attack on any S/M attempting to enter Stwistaale Fiord or Northern approach to Thorshavn. Is this intended. -(N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1035B/23 to Admty). Your 1035B/23. Submarines attempting to enter Skaale Fiord or Northern Approaches to Thorshaven are to be attacked.(A.C.O.S., 1211B/23 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes.) Informing MINERVE. (A.C.O.S. 2147B/23).
TUNA.	SCHARNHORST is in La Pallice with 4 destroyers and may return to Brest. Proceed by shortest route to line joining position 087° D.D. 125 miles and 101° D.D. 158 miles and after reaching this line proceed to south eastern end of it. Withdraw to seaward if harassed. Further signal will be made about leaving Patrol which will not be before p.m./24. This is a repetition of My 1321B/23. (F.O.S., 1401B/23 to TUNA).
N.P. Trawlers.	My 2324B/22. N.P. trawlers to revert to dispositions given in my 1745B/17. (A.C.O.S., 1450/23 to S.O.N.T.)
M.T.B.'s	A.M. 1238B/22. M.T.B.'s may return to their respective bases. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1631B/23).
Projected Operation.	A.C.N.S. (H) 1648B/23, V.A. Dover 1914B/23. See Operations Volume.

/SOKOL.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

SOKOL. SOKOL reports unsuccessful attack. 0424/15 on 10,000 ton escorted supply ship in 46.41 N., 02.30 W. Details. (F.O.S., 1651B/23).

M.G.B. patrol, 21. Weather permitting one unit of M.G.B's is to carry out an anti E-boat patrol tonight Wednesday passing through the following positions:- 52° 12' N., 2° 45' E., 52° 0' N., 3° 30' E., 52° 45' N., 3° 20' E. returning through Gap "E" at daylight. Report M.G.B.'s detailed and time of sailing. (C. in C. Nore, 1752B/23 to BEEHIVE).

Operation. V.A. Dover 1919B/23, A.C.N.S. (H) 2208B/23. See Operations Volume.

British Air Operations.

Patrols. VOE A and VOE B discontinued indefinitely owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 0224/23).
My 0224/23. Patrol in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0834/23).
My 0834/23 patrol was discontinued at 1100 aircraft having to return owing to engine trouble. Patrol will recommence about 1500.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1240/23).
BERT now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1130/23).
My 1130/23. Nothing sighted by BERT.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1432/23 to C. in C. H.F., Admty, A.C.C.S.)
Air patrol of exercise area W of Orkneys discontinued by 18 group A/C until dusk/24. Intend to fly it from dusk/24 until dawn/25. (C. in C. Rosyth 2146/23).

Enemy Air Operations.

Yarmouth. Great Yarmouth bombed 0145/23. No naval damage or casualties. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0904/23).

S.S. PILAR DE LARRINAGA. No doubt this ship was responsible for shooting down the F.W. Condor which attacked convoy O.B. 346 at 0923B/18. Details. Casualties. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 0949/23, 1646B/23, C. in C. W.A. 1810B/23).

/Convoy E.C. 49.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations - Contd.

Convoy E.C. 49. Attacked in 052° 59' N., 001° 53' E., at 2320B /22 Low level bombing aircraft shot down by combined fire of ship and escort of Convoy (7). No. (CARTH, 1031B/23).

AAAA. Automatic AAAA signal heard at 1450 G.M.T. and 1419 G.M.T. (Port Patrick Radio, 1452/23, 1622/23).

BRACONBRAE A.84. (Trawler). Bombed at 1700/23 8 miles East of Fuglo Island. Damage being repaired locally oneslight casualty. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 2130B/23, A.C.O.S. 2345/23).

Mining.

Operation N.L. 21. Two M.L.'s will be operating close to the Coast off Calais tonight Wednesday. Request arrangements be made that they shall on no account be illuminated by flares from friendly aircraft. (V.A. Dover, 1106B/23 to H.Q.C.C. H.Q.B.C.)
Intend to carry out operation N.L. 20 tonight Tuesday on a course 287° from a position 292° Cape Griz Nez Light 8 cables. (V.A. Dover, 1108B/23 to Admty).
Cancel my 1108B. Intend to carry out operation N.L. 21 tonight Wednesday on course 336° from a position 336°. Ridens De Calais No. 1 Whistle Buoy 2 cables. (V.A. Dover, 1846B/23).

Sunderland. Detonated One magnetic mine at 1142/23 in position 084° Roker Pier Light Sunderland 25 cables. (P.M.S.O., Sunderland 1206/23).

Thames Estuary. Parachute reported in approx. 51° 31' 12" N., 00° 41' 00" E., uncertain if mine attached. (C. in C. Nore 1325B/23).

Clyde. Magnetic mine detonated in 55° 36.4' N., 4° 42.9' W., at 1427/23. Sweeping was commenced as a result of a fisherman recovering mine cover in trawl yesterday evening. Mine cover had small barnacles indicating about 2 months growth. Sweeping is continuing in this area. (Comdr. M/S Clyde, 1618B/23).

Operations P.W. 16 P.W. 17. (1) My 3415/0528A/13 of 17 /7 and Admty 1559/22. Carry out operation P.W. (16) and P.W. (17) as soon as practicable. (C. in C. Nore, 1858B/23 to BEEHIVE).

/PYTCHLEY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

PYTCHLEY. Board of Enquiry has established position when mined on 23/6 was 54° 08' 50" N., 00° 01' 30" W. In addition to S.A. search as in my 1609/23/6 and 1925/24/6. Q.Z.S. 266 and Diversion Q.Z.Y. 242 as far south as No. 17 Buoy have since both been repeatedly searched S.A. with negative result. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2219/23).

Enemy Intelligence.

SCHARNHORST. P.R.U. La Pallice at 0915B/23 shows SCHARNHORST and 4 destroyers present.
(D.D.I.C. , 1256B/23 to A.I.G. 62, 21, F.O.S., H.Q.C.C.)
SCHARNHORST is in La Pallice with 4 destroyers and may return to Brest. Proceed by shortest route to line joining position 087° D.D.125 miles and 101° D.D. miles and after reaching this line proceed South Eastern end of it. Withdrawn to seaward if harassed. Further signal will be made about leaving patrol which will not be before P.M.23rd. (F.O.(S) 1321B/23 to TUNA S/M's on Patrol area A).
P.R.U., La Pallice at 1830B/23 shows SCHARNHORST still in same position. She is covered with camouflage and is protected by nets.
(D.D.I.C., 2150B/23 to A.I.G. 62, 21, H.Q.C.C.)

4 Destroyers off Kola Peninsular. 4 German destroyers probably JAGUAR Class reported by aircraft at 2200C in 70° 12' N., 37° 12' E. course 200½° speed 15 knots.
(Admiral Miles Moscow, 1308C/23).

BISMARCK. Asking for further details. (D.N.I., 2059B/23).

Casualties and Defects.

REPULSE. Docked 23/7. (A.S. Rosyth 2000/23).

KUKAWIAK Has following minor defects. (R.A. (D) 2115B/23).

Shipping & Convoys.

Names of Ships. Admty 1948Z/2/5. Is painting out of ship's names considered sufficient in all cases? Where raised letters are removed, name is often still discernible after painting. Only effective method is to weld on light steel plate which in a recent case cost £137.
(N.Z.N.B., 1128M/23 to Admty).

/Escorts.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Escorts. For F.N., E.C. and F.S. convoys. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1150B/23 amended 1319B/24). See Lion Copy.

H.G. 68. Reported by Italian U/B. (See U-Boat Campaign).

O.S. Convoys. Escort all the way. (D.T.D., 2020B/23) See South Atlantic.

Escorts. Your message to depot ships. My 1835/21 WOLFHOUND will be S.O. Escort of F.S. 51. Escort of F.S. 52 and E.C. 52 WESTMINSTER, VALOROUS, and F.S.56, LEEDS, GARTH. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1251/23 to Admty Etc).

H.X. 137. Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all ships of Convoy H.X. 137. (C. in C. W.A., 1417/23 to Commodore W.H. Poole R.N.R.)53 ships, including 10 Allied, 2 Neutral. Cargoes. (D.S. 688, 24/7).

Fighter Protection. My 1108/6. System of accepting 'intend to sail' signal as an automatic request for fighter protection has proved successful, This system is to be applied to convoys between Falmouth, Bristol Channel, Milford Haven, Darmouth and Portsmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1436/23 to F.O.I.C.'s Cardiff etc).

O.G. bunkers. Your 0951B/23 ships for South Atlantic which require to bunker in West Indies on passage are not to be sailed in O.G. Convoys. (D.T.D., 1821B/23 to N.C.S.O. Oban).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MANCHESTER. ST. DAY.	Sailed Fleet tug ST. DAY 1230A/23 (route). 1 Catalina aircraft will escort you during daylight/24, none available today. (F.O.C.N.A. 1150B/23 to MANCHESTER.) MANCHESTER proceeding along French Coast. Pass signal to AVON VALE in company. (S.O. Force H. 1255B/23 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ISAC. (French)	Following from M.E.W. Your 1651/21 and 1758/22. Ship and cargo are to be seized and placed in prize. Instructions to Governor follow from Colonial Office. (D.E.W.D. 1206B/23 to C.C.S.O., Gibraltar.)
CLYDE.	My 1144B/22 (N.T. in W.D.) Intend retain operational control of Clyde. Re W/T watch. Request Admiralty will pass knowledge of movement of enemy or neutral shipping direct to CLYDE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1210B/23 to Admty.)
PRESIDENT LAVIT. (French)	Arrived 23/7. (Bilbao, 1524/23 to M. of W.T.
LEESEE. (German)	Arrived 23/7. (Consul, Bilbao 1759/23 to D.N.I.)
VIZCAYA. (Spanish)	My Arfar 468 Admty. 2308/22. Passengers referred to belong to French Foreign Legion, wish to join De Gaulle and have been accepted by local Free French Mission. They have been landed here and vessel sailed 23/7. (C.C.S.O. Gib., 1640/23 to Admty.)
Catalina attacked by own A/C.	Ref. Summary 22/7, Catalina returning from patrol 05° 30' E. attacked by 2 F.A.A. Fulmars in 58° N. 03° 55' E. at 1730 B.S.T. 1 Gunner sustained flesh wounds in both legs. Aircraft badly holed but successfully beached. 1 Fulmar attacked after Catalina had fired recognition cartridge. (200 Group, 1700/23.)
Sunderland, AVON VALE.	One Sunderland will join you at (?20) 24 Call sign M.9 H.R. will be relieved by M.9 H.M. at approx. 1000A. (F.O.C.N.A. 2214B/23 to AVON VALE.)

/WELLINGTON .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

WELLINGTON. My 1431B/20. Add WELLINGTON requiring approx. 150 tons. (D.O.D.(F) 2217B/23 to B.C. Ponta Delgada.)

MONBALDO. MAGGIO. BUTTERFLY. LIMONCELLI. TEBRO. (Italian) Known to have left South American ports. You must assume as on previous occasions that they will be disguised as British or neutral merchantmen. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2343B/23 to CAVINA, HILARY.)

French Convoy. Westbound, passed Gibraltar 1447/21. Details in D.O.R. 23/7.)

South Atlantic.

VILLE DE ROUEN. (Vichy French.) Madagascar to Dakar intercepted at 0030Z/22 in 019° 32' S. 011° 12' W. Crew, 52 passengers, men 23 women 3, children 6. Cargo sugar and beans. No attempt at scuttling. Attempted W/T transmission on 8500 kc/s possibly partially successful and another on 500 kc/s swamped. Guard and navigating party placed on board and ship sent unescorted direct to Simonstown. E.T.A. a.m./1/8. (DUNEDIN, 0923Z/23 to C. in C.S.A.)

CROMARTY. My 1015/20. Overdue shipping. CROMARTY arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0946B/23 to Admty. etc.)

VIMY. HIGHLANDER. Your 0930/10 and my 1627/18. Now ascertained F.O.C.N.A. that no date for departure of VIMY from Gibraltar can yet be given. Intend retaining HIGHLANDER for the present in accordance with Admty. 1624B/20/5. (C. in C.S.A 1051N/23 to C. in C.W.A.)

/CATHAY .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

CATHAY. CROCUS. NEW NORTHLAND. — CATHAY is to return to Freetown independently. CROCUS proceeds to Lagos and escort NEW NORTHLAND from there to Freetown leaving Lagos p.m./25. (C. in C.S.A. 1109N/23 to CATHAY, CROCUS.)

Force Z. — St. Helena arrival 0900/23, EAGLE, DUNEDIN. (General, St. Helena, 1302/23 to Admty. etc.)

"Q" Report. (Cancelled) — QQQQ. 10.58 S.16.58 W. SHEAF MOUNT, suspicious 1503 G.M.T./23. (Ascension Radio, T.O.R.1730/23 to Freetown W/T.) Following has been read:- Cancel my 1503 = 1535 G.M.T./23. (Ascension Radio, 1538Z/23 SHEAF MOUNT, 2017/23)

ANTONIO LIMONCELLI. (Italian) — Maranham reports appears to be preparing for sea. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1808Z/23 to R.A.S.A.D.) (S.O.I. Freetown, 1810N/23 to Admty.)

STELLA. (Italian) — At request of Italian Consul, Captain of Port has telegraphed this afternoon to Ministry of Marine at Rio de Janeiro for permission for STELLA to sail. (Consul, Pernambuco, 1900Z/23 to Admty. S.O.(I) Montevideo 2046Z/23.)

EAGLE. DUNEDIN. ALCANTARA. — My 1311/3/7. (Hush, N.T. in W.D.) EAGLE (?and) DUNEDIN left spotter 18/7 arrived St. Helena 23/7 sighted nothing. ALCANTARA still in neighbourhood spotter. Unless required elsewhere by operation "Quarry" may still arrive spotter area. Intend EAGLE and DUNEDIN after fuelling shall operate in J.55 returning St. Helena 3/8, ALCANTARA to rejoin R.A.S.A.D. (C. in C.S.A. 1957N/23 to Admty.)

O.S.Escorts. — Your 1555N/18 O.B. 346 and subsequent O.S.convoys are being escorted all the way and ocean escorts will proceed into Bathurst for fuel and to await S.L. convoys. As O.S. convoys are for ships of 9 knots and over the S. of A. will be approx. 8 knots and convoys should arrive in 19°N 14 days after sailing and not 18 days after sailing as stated in C. in C.W.A. 1515B/22. Ocean escort have been instructed to signal E.T.A. southern R/V 7 days in advance. (D.T.D. 2020B/23 to C. in C.S.A.)

/ANTONIO .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ANTONIO LIMONCELLI. STELLA. — Believe ANTONIO LIMONCELLI at Maranham and STELLA at Pernambuco may sail tonight. S.O.(I) Freetown pass to C. in C. S.A. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2041Z/23 to S.O.(I) Montevideo.)

Japanese bunkers. — Ambassador is asking for instructions regarding withholding of bunkers from Japanese in River Plate. Telegraph present position of Japanese ships southbound and whether it is possible that they will apply for bunkers here or Montevideo. Repeat reply to D.N.I. for F.O. (N.A. Buenos Aires, 2100Z/23 to S.O.I. Kingston Jamaica.)
Your 2100Z/23. Recent decree in Montevideo limits ANCAP's bunkers to 100 tons total per ship and owing to present low stocks unlikely that even this would be supplied to Japanese ships. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2311Z/23.)

ALCANTARA. — My 1958/23 ALCANTARA had fuel for 16 days at 15 knots on 18/7, could be fuelled St. Helena if you require but unless you signal to contrary intend she shall proceed as in your 1736/19 direct a.m./25. (C. in C.S.A. 2115N/23 to R.A.S.A.D.)

PULASKI. accommodation. — My 0801N/19. D. of S.T. 0505B/22 and 1453B/23. I was impressed by Capt. Allen's account and written report but did not inspect ship personally nor did S. S.T.O. as time was short after report received. Request full investigation on arrival and report with any recommendations. (C. in C.S.A. 2245N/23 to ? N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

ERLANGEN. (German) — Left Mar Del Plata at 2230/ G.M.T. today 23/7. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2336Z/23 to R.A.S.A.D. R.O. Buenos Aires, 2340Z/23 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy M.V. Cancel my 1940B/22. Sailing postponed. (V.A. Malta, 0006B/23 to URSULA.)

S/M Report. Sunderland F/B at 2020B/22 sighted S/M on surface, 034° 34' N. 020° 13' E. course 150° speed 6 knots. S/M gave incorrect reply to challenge. (V.A. Malta, 0025B/23 to Med. Fleet.)

HERO damaged. HERO damaged starboard hand while berthing Tobruk this morning. Consider defects may be satisfactorily made good at Mersa Matruh. (HERO, 0735C/23 to R.A. Alexandria.) HERO's 0735C/23. Effecting temporary repair here. Intend sailing HERO and HOTSPUR as in R.A. Alexandria's 2310C/20. (N.O.I.C. Mersa Matruh, 1051C/23 to R.A. Alexandria, etc.)

Canal Raid 22/7. My 1213C/22, ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40. (A) 22/7 calm cloudless (B) 5 bombers, high level, independent, main objective Kabrit Aerodrome, quarter moon just rising (C) H/E bomb. (D) About 2500 kilos bomb and one U.X.B. in Bitter Lake clear of channel. (E) (1) Kabrit Naval Camp Galley destroyed. (E) (2) 2 Naval ratings slightly injured. (F) Searchlight active but failed to pick up raiders. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 0925C/23 to Admty. C. in C. Med.) Details of R.A.F. damage. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1011/23.)

Benghazi bombed. Western Desert, night 21/22, 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing explosions east of Cathedral Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1011/23.)

Greek and Turkish Ships. AGHIOS NICOLAOS (description) leaving Dardanelles for Famagusta dark tonight, 23rd, proceeding by night only and in Turkish waters. She will show Turkish markings and colour. 2 Turkish ships left Mersin 22nd for Falivehich. Above ships are not to be molested. (Capt. S.1. 1159C/23 to TETRARCH.)

S/M Movement Summaries. Your 1525C/21 to C. in C. Med. If proposal approved suggest:- (1) Area call signs for S/Ms on patrol therein be allocated. (ii) Summaries be odd numbers for Eastern and even numbers for Central areas. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1217B/23 to Capt. S.1.)

/E-Boats .....

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

E-Boats. 2 E-Boats P.C. and S. 037° 31' N. 012° 27' E. 200° 25 knots at 1527B. (V.A. Malta, 1445B/23 to S.O. Force H.)

Enemy M/V's attacked, destroyer torpedoed. P.M.22/7. 4 Blenheims attacked 4 medium M/V's 5 destroyers southbound off Pantellaria. 1 M/V 7000 tons 2 hits causing fire and columns black and white smoke. Second M/V 6000 tons 2 hits. Third M/V 5000 tons believed carrying ammunition 3 hits ship blew up and disappeared. Opposition usual. 1 crew fatally injured. All aircraft returned safely. Maryland R/C 1 hour later showed 7000 tons Merchantman with only stern above water and 2 destroyers picking up survivors. 5 Swordfish followed with dusk attack on same convoy, now of only 1 7000 ton tanker 1 small M/V and 1 destroyer. 2 torpedoes hit tanker claimed as total loss. 1 torpedo hit destroyer in stern and is claimed as severely damaged. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1600/23.)

B.S.1, air co-operation. Blenheims failed to complete R/C to westward of you this afternoon. One Maryland 39 Sqdn. searching area south of line El Amaid - Gavdo to 24° E. landing Fuka Sattelite about 2115. (Group 201, 1620C/23 to B.S.1.)

VILJA. Have you any news of VILJA (Nor.) ? D.T.D. 1709B/23 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal) Reply: 0951/24.

OTUS. Electrical defect prevents OTUS sailing tonight 23rd. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1715B/23 to Capt. S.1.)

Operation GUILLOTINE. On completion of serial 4 NEPTUNE, ABDIEL and KIMBERLEY are to return to Port Said and carry out serial 7. On completion of serial 6 LEANDER proceed to Port Said, LATONA to Haifa for mine rail trials, JAGUAR to Haifa. (C. in C. Med. 17230/23 to S. and A. concerned in GUILLOTINE amended 23270/24.)

BARHAM programme. Your 0951Z/22. Approved subject to concurrence of C. in C. East Indies. (C. in C. Med. 17270/23 to BARHAM.)

/UNION .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UNION. Reporting loss, as in S.O.(S) Malta 1023B/22. (C. in C. Med. 1725C/23 to Admty.)

Beirut Repatriations. Arrangements. Syrian Ports) (C. in C. Med. 1801C/23 to N.O.I.C. See Lion Copy.

Greek Navy Fuel. Greek Admiral has sailed Greek Tanker ARGO to Abadan to load fuel for Greek Navy. Propose that British Authorities assume responsibility for fuelling Greek Navy and that tanker ARGO be run to Admiralty orders on general Naval service. R.A.L. pass to Greek N.L.O. (C. in C. Med. 1825C/23 to Admty.)

Main Fleet. Departure 22/7 QUEEN ELIZABETH, VALIANT, NAIAD, PHOEBE, HOBART, NEPTUNE, ABDIEL, JACKAL, NIZAM, KIMBERLEY, GRIFFIN, HAVOCK, HASTY, KIPLING, AETOS. (S.O.I. Alexandria, 1843C/23 to Admty. etc.)

FIREDRAKE. bombed. Bombed. FIREDRAKE damaged by near miss in 037° 30' N. 010° 40' E. is returning to Gibraltar keeping near French coast, ERIDGE in company. (C.S. 18, 1945B/23 to S.O. Force H. F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Units ? S/M's. Following bearings from Dingli of enemy warships believed S/M's 300° at 1947 and 350° at 1950 both 2nd class. (V.A. Malta, 2030b/23 to Force H., Force X.)
My 2235B/23 (Italian W/T to S/M's)(N.T. in W.D.)
Bearings (? of) S/M's so far obtained indicate barrage of 5 or 6 to westward of Skerki Channel and possibly one or 2 to eastward of Skerki Channel and north of Pantellaria. (V.A. Malta, 2325B/23 to S.O. Force H. C.S. 18.)

Famagusta. Established as Defended Port as defined in C.B. 1618q (40). Responsible Officer is N.O.I.C. Famagusta, Cyprus. P.W.S.S. is established at Othello Tower, 035° 07' 24" N. 033° 56' 30" E. but do not keep constant watch. Time kept Zone Minus 5. (C. in C. Med. 2221C/23 to Med. Stn.)

/Situation .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report 95.

Operation M.E.5., nothing to report. Syria. Normal and independent sailings of merchant vessels to Beirut have been commenced. (C. in C. Med., 22590/23 to Admty.) P.C. and S. at 2300B/23 037° 28' N. 010° 35' E. 270° 6 knots. FIREDRAKE in tow. FIREDRAKE will have steam 0400. Will then (corrupt group) Galita. (ERIDGE, 2315B/23 to S.O. Force H.)

FEARLESS sunk.

MANCHESTER and FIREDRAKE were damaged and FEARLESS sunk during enemy air attacks on 23/7. MANCHESTER and FIREDRAKE are returning to Gibraltar escorted by AVON VALE, VIMY, VIDETTE, Fleet Tug ST. DAY and ERIDGE. (D.O.R. 24/7) W.D. Note: No signal re FEARLESS received in W.D.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Troop Convoy Escorts. — Your 1730/19. Escorts can be provided for (B) and (C) from Ceylon.
(C. in C. E.I., 0818Z/23 to Admty.)

A/A Defences. — Your 1128Z/21/6 and 0754Z/8/7, and Admty., 1755/17 para. 12. Assume you will now represent your requirements for A.A. defences to C. in C. India.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 0957B/23, to C. in C. E.I.)

Reports by American Ships, Aden. — Masters of American ships calling at Aden wish to inform owners in America of progress of their voyage. I have invited them to conform to our methods of censorship and pointed out undesirability of using W/T. Would seem desirable to bring "Chatfold" into force (A.M. 2050/22/5 refers.)
(S.N.O.R.S., 1241Z/23, to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Sàrawak. — C. in C. China 0527Z/23.
See Operations Volume.

Floating Dock. — C. in C. Med.'s 1206/20. Recommend A.F. DIX should not be removed from Singapore for following reasons:-
(C. in C. China, 0817Z/23 to Admty., Amended 0806Z/24.)

French Ships. — Departure 23/7 GOUVERNEUR GENERAL MAURICE LONG and MACAS.
(Saigon, 0915Z/23, to M. of W.T.)

America & West Indies.

H.X.141. — Your 1948B/22. Regret no destroyers of Halifax Force available for H.X.141.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 0345Z/23, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Operation "Opponent". — My 1201Q/20. DESPATCH sails for operation "OPPONENT" 25/7. Intend to detail PRINCE DAVID as escort for DOMINION MONARCH if this is still required.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1022Q/23, to Admty.)
Reply: 1906/24.

SKEENA. — My 1244Z/18 and my 2359Z/20. Delete SKEENA from escort for H.X.140 SKEENA will now be required for H.X.141.
(C.C.N.F., 1117Z/23, to C. in C. W.A.)

/RAMILLIES....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

RAMILLIES. My 1231P/22, revert usual notice.
(R.A.3, 1121P/23, to RAMILLIES.)
Has been ordered to revert to 4 hours' notice for steam.
(M.O.I.C. Iceland 1842Z/23, to F.O. 3 B.S.)

RICHMOND defects. A/S Equipment out of action, can only be made efficient by complete rewiring. Propose making her available for this purpose in U.S.A. yards on return from present convoy. (date) Request necessary arrangements may be made.
(C.C.N.F., 1415Z/23, to B.A.R.M.)

Suspicious Ships. In view of C. in C. A. & W. I., 2252Q/22, (N.T. in W.D.) following reports passed. 5/7 in 04.45N., 046.54 W BR. CLAN MACIVER course 303° sighted tanker 6000 to 7000 tons making little headway and reported because apparently trying to avoid observation.
13/7 U.S. PRESIDENT TYLER in 009.11 N 058.14 W en route Trinidad. Sighted passenger m/v at 8 miles reported suspicious as having zigzagged three times under his stern and then proceeded N.E. Suggest probably BR. ORARI arrived Trinidad 13/7 due Halifax yesterday.
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 1002R/23, to Admty., etc.)

Trinidad. bunkers. Admty 1630B/21. Local companies can handle provided sufficient Diesel and fuel can be sent from Curacoa. Suggest both Southbound and Northbound ships use Trinidad and if delay likely to be over 48 hours Northbound to be sent to Curacoa.
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1658Q/23, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Enemy Intelligence. German and Italian warship dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1829B/23, to Britman, Washington.)
See Lion Copy.

Australia.

Pacific Fleet Command. Your 0327Z/29/6. We concur in proposal outlined for Tactical Command of Allied units on condition Admiralty also concurs, C. in C. Pacific Fleet please pass to Washington for Australian N.A.
(A.C.N.B., 1206Z/23, to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

Mines.

Following mines laid by Raider June 1940 have been destroyed up to 18/7/1941. In Hauraki Gulf, 82. Vicinity Cuvier Island 7. Floating and washed ashore, 7. Total 96. Mines in Hauraki Gulf laid in single line from position 035° Bream Heah 9.7 miles to 282° Moko Hinau 8.5 miles, thence up to date in direction 048° for 5.6 miles. Average spacing 300 yards. Further operations continuing.
(N.Z.N.B., 1640M/23, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CATHRINE (torpedoed 19/6.)

Overdue at Barrow since 22/6 from Freetown, in Convoy S.L.76, now known to have been torpedoed and sunk on 19/6 probably about 250 miles S.W. of Ireland 49.30 N., 16° W., 3 survivors picked up. 10 others had died in lifeboat. Master and 13 others also lost.
(D.S. 687, 23/7, 688, 24/7.)

LADY SOMERS rescue by CAMPECHE.

Request owners master and crew of Spanish CAMPECHE may be thanked. Behaviour of CAMPECHE was splendid and their action in remaining close to LADY SOMERS probably prevented U-Boat machine gunning the survivors.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1536/23, to Admty.)

MALVERNIAN. (torpedoed 1/7.)

32 survivors Corunna and 25 Vigo. Have applied for their transmission to Madrid. Still not clear whether Spanish authorities will treat them as Naval personnel or as merchant seamen in which case I shall get them to Gibraltar sooner.
(N.A. Madrid, 1931/23, to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

1930/22..

D/F bearings at 1930/22 G.M.T. indicate that Convoy HG 68 was reported by an Italian U-boat.
(D.D.I.C. 0256B/23.)
Your 0256B/23. This S/M believed to be in area 36° to 38° N., 11° to 13° W., Admiralty bearings appear to confirm this. Signal was not intercepted here but control gave R 2100/22. Your 1926B/25/6 states no T.O.O. at end (? or in) report. Estimated position of H.G.68 was 035° 05' N., 018° 40' W. Request confirmation immediately for local plot.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1930B/23, to Admty.)
Reply: 1809/24.

0735 G.M.T.

Following bearings of Italian U/Boat, call sign 36D, obtained at 0735/23 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1038B/23, to F.O.C.N.A.)
Estimated U/B Dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1400B/23.)

/2100/9.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 23.7.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

2100/9. Please confirm that object sighted astern of S.L.75 at about 2100/9 was considered U boat conning tower and that asdic was not defective at time concerned.
(Capt.D.Londonderry, 1532B/23, to CLARKIA.)
Your 1532 B/23. Object concerned and reported by after lookout as probably conning tower of S/M was not confirmed by officer of watch. (?ARABIS) was directed by me to carry out sweep in area concerned and later reported negative result. CLARKIA asdics were out of action during the entire homeward trip.
(CLARKIA, 1920P/23 to Capt. D., Londonderry.)

O.G.68. There is probably an Italian U Boat still shadowing O.G.68.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1644B/23 to WALLFLOWER.)
Convoy O.G.68 was probably reported by an Italian U/Boat at 1808Z/23.
(D.D.I.C. 2047B/23 to CAMPANULA, ZINNIA.)

22/7. My 2053Z/22. Sighting of S/M not confirmed.
(Halifax W/T 2125Z/23, to C. in C. W.A.,Admty.)

2115. S/M reported by A/C in 043° 10' N., 061° 31' W., at 2115Z/23.
(C.O.A.C., Halifax, 2130Z/23, to G.B.7A, Admty., etc.)

2015. Italian U-boat in approx., 036° 20' N., 015° 40' W., at 2015Z/23.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2345B/23, to WALLFLOWER, CAMPANULA.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

24.7.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

M.T.B. Operation

M.T.B's 49,51,70 and 71 were despatched from Dover to attack a tanker which was reported to have left Boulogne in tow at 2130/23 for the westward. Contact was made at 0337, 36 miles S.E. of Dungeness. Strong opposition was encountered from the escort, M.T.B. 71 was holed, two M.T.B's were superficially damaged and one developed engine defects and did not make contact. There were no casualties to personnel.
Damage to the enemy is not known, but one torpedo at least should have hit.

M.G.B. Patrol

An anti-E-Boat patrol was carried out last night from Harwich by a unit of M.G.B's east of Gap E.

British Air Operations

Attack on German Battle Cruisers

Bomber Command this afternoon detailed a force of 149 aircraft (with fighter escort) to attack the GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN at Brest and SCHARNHORST at La Pallice, with a diversion at Cherbourg. It is reported that direct hits were registered on GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN and the large tanker which had taken SCHARNHORST's place. Severe damage was also inflicted on Barracks and dock buildings adjacent to the targets. At least one direct hit appeared to have been obtained on SCHARNHORST at La Pallice; this ship had also been attacked last night after the attack yesterday evening. At Cherbourg, the whale ship OLE WEGGER was attacked, 17 tons of bombs being released on and around the target.

Coastal Command aircraft report successful attacks this morning on enemy shipping off the coast of Norway.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

24.7.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Operation N.L. 20. — Two M.L's laid mines last night off Calais.

Minelaying in Channel by U-Boats. — C. in C. Portsmouth considers that there is evidence to show that enemy submarines are laying minefields in the English Channel.

Minelaying aircraft operated last night in Liverpool Bay.

Mediterranean

Operation "Substance" — At 0250 6 E-Boats attacked Force X and convoy for an hour in the Narrows. One E-Boat was sunk and one possibly damaged. SS SYDNEY STAR was hit: NESTOR embarked her military personnel and escorted her to Malta: HERMIONE joined her at 0700. At 1000 NESTOR and HERMIONE were unsuccessfully attacked by enemy aircraft with German markings. HERMIONE shot down one of the enemy.
The main convoy was attacked at 0705 by 3 torpedo bombers, without success.
Force H. turned east at 1345.
The whole convoy (less FEARLESS and ERIDGE) arrived at Malta early this afternoon.

Malta — Fighters today destroyed a very strong air R/C of Malta.

Italian Floating dock torpedoed. — At 1237/24 UPRIGHT hit with two torpedoes an escorted floating dock in tow of two ocean tugs, which was rounding Cape Spartivento.

Western Desert. — 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night.

Operation M.E. 3. — The Battle Fleet has returned to Alexandria.

Operation GUILLOTINE — NEPTUNE, LEANDER, ABDIEL, LATONA and 4 destroyer were detached from the Fleet to continue the operation of reinforcing Cyprus from Port Said.

/Vichy....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

24.7.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Vichy French shipping.	Vichy French tanker ADOUR and a motor trawler were reported leaving Iskanderun at 1310 today by permission from Ankara. C. in C. Med. has ordered aircraft to intercept and order the ships to Famagusta, failing which they are to be sunk. *. This was not confirmed.
Eastern Mediterranean Situation	A message was sent today to C. in C. Med. embodying the views of the Chiefs of Staff on the situation, particularly as affecting Turkey.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

DORSETSHIRE, escort. Adty. 1230B/14. F.O.I.C. Tyne 1046/23, C. in C. Nore's 1246/14. There is no S.A. fitted destroyer in R.E.F. to escort DORSETSHIRE from Tyne 0700/27 to lat. of Fifeness. Propose using WORCESTER, who completes S.A. trials at Rosyth p.m./24th or a.m./25th. (C. in C. Rosyth 1047/24 to Adty.)

Adty. 1150B/24 and C. in C. Rosyth 1047B/24. Intend to sail WINDSOR to Tyne with F.N.97. (C. in C. Nore 2304B/24 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

TUNA. Orders for leaving patrol. (Capt.(S) 3, 1209B/24 to TUNA.)

LA CAPRICIEUSE. Arrangements for R/V and Escort of TUNA (Capt. (S) 3, 1219B/24)

WORCESTER. My 1047/24. In view of Adty. 1105B/24. Intend retaining WORCESTER. Request a 2nd S.A. Sweeper may be provided from Nore Command. (C. in C. Rosyth 1759/24 to C. in C. Nore.)

SHROPSHIRE. On completion practices 25/7 proceed to Hvalfjord.
(ii) Proceed from Hvalfjord a.m./28 to patrol Denmark Strait.
(iii) Leave patrol to arrive Akureyri a.m./1/8.
(iv) Sail from Akureyri p.m./1/8 for Hvalfjord.
(C. in C.H.F. 1804B/24 to SHROPSHIRE.)

U.S. Troops for Iceland. (D.O.D.(H) 1905B/24) See Operations Volume.

Operations.

TUNA SCHARNHORST has now been covered with camouflage and is protected by nets. Leave patrol forthwith and proceed Holy Loch. Route. (F.O.(S) 0734B/24 to TUNA.)

M.T.B. Operation. On information received from Admty. that a tanker had left Boulogne in tow at 2130/23 for the Westward M.T.B's 49. 51. 70 and 71 were despatched to intercept. Contact was made at 0537 in position 157° Dungeness 36. Strong opposition was encountered from escort vessels and only M.T.B.49 was able to fire torpedoes. Estimated no hits. M.T.B.70 developed engine defects and did not make contact. M.T.B.71 was holed amidships below water line resulting in flooding of one compartment. M.T.B.49 and 51 suffered superficial damage. No casualties. (V.A. Dover 0935B/24)

/My 0935B .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

M.T.B. Operation contd.

My 0935B. Further investigation shows that the enemy vessels were bunched together and that torpedoes were fired from close range in excellent position. There is every possibility that a ship was hit. (V.A. Dover 1933B/24.)

SEAWOLF.

After passing 47° N. 04° W. proceed to patrol in vicinity of line joining positions 105° D.D. 92 miles and 096° D.D. 111 miles. Retire to south westwards if necessary. (F.O.S. 1724B/24 to SEAWOLF.)
Proceed forthwith to patrol in vicinity 028° 70 miles. Keep special lookout to South eastward. (F.O.S. 2336B/24 to SEAWOLF.)

TUNA.

Return by nearest route to Northern part of your patrol line with all despatch. My 0734B/24 target possibly returning. (F.O.S. 2353B/24 to TUNA.)

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

STAND in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0148/24.)
TROOT and STAB are being flown to reach Norwegian coast about 1530. (C. in C. Rosyth 1252/24.)
STAND now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 2224/24)

GNEISENAU.

Wounded Wellington/ Pilot claims straddle across GNEISENAU. (Yeovilton 1725B/24, 2122B/24.)

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S.MONKWOOD.

S.S. MONKWOOD arrived Sunderland Ex Convoy E.C.49 reports very minor damage to engines as result of air attack at 2315/22 in approx. 53° 00' N. 01° 50' E. claims aircraft was brought down 40 yards away and sank immediately leaving no wreckage. Fact that aircraft was brought down confirmed by S.S. ARA and S.S. CERNE and S.S. MIRAPANU. MIRAPANU state all ships in vicinity appeared to be firing at aircraft destruction of which might have been due to fire from one or combined fire from several ships. (C. in C. Rosyth 1647/24.)

Convoy E.C.

Fighters being sent to assistance of YIELD. (Rosyth W/T 1805/24.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Hull.
CRAIGLAS.
STARSTONE.
damaged.

At 0750/23/7 an explosion occurred in Alexandra Dock, Hull, damaging S.S. CRAIGLAS and STARSTONE and sinking three lighters with the loss of two civilians. Attributed to a mine reported in this vicinity on night 3/4 May 1941. Creeping operations the following day failed to locate a parachute and sweeping operations carried out produced a negative result. (F.O. Humber 0930B/24.)

German Minefields, Baltic.

Report by Air Attache, Helsingfors. (1) Tallin, (2) Paldiski. (N.A. Stockholm 1046/24.)

Destroyer escort for cruisers on E. Coast.

Owing to increased enemy mining with acoustic mines on the East Coast, it is necessary that all cruisers and above should be provided with a fast S/A escort of two destroyers when on passage in the coastal channels between North Foreland and Fifness.
2. The C. in C. of the Command from which a ship sails will normally be responsible for the provision of this escort but the provision of escorts should be arranged between C. in C. Nore and C. in C. Rosyth so as to economise the movements of destroyers, Admty. and C. in C.H.F. being informed.
3. The S/A sweeping of ships in and out of harbour will remain the responsibility of the local F.O.I.C's under their Cs. in C.A.C.O.S. pass to C.S. 1 on return. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1105B/24 to C. in C. Nore., C. in C. Rosyth., F.O.I.C. Tyne F.O.I.C. Humber.)

Dangerous Area off Lizard.

249 Q.Z.Y. A dangerous area due to mines is enclosed by the lines joining the following positions:-
(a) Lizard Head.
(b) 49° 56' 20" N. 005° 12' 04" W.
(c) 49° 57' 00" N. 005° 10' 19" W.
(d) 49° 57' 00" N. 004° 58' 12" W.
(e) 50° 10' 56" N. 004° 54' 42" W.
(f) 50° 14' 00" N. 004° 47' 52" W.
Cancel 209 Q.Z.Y. (D.M.S. 1135B/24)

Portsmouth.

Re enemy mines and sweeping intentions. (C. in C. Portsmouth 17573/24.)

/Channel .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Channel. I consider there is evidence to show that enemy submarines are laying minefields in the English Channel. Two mines of new type recently swept off Portland Bill and Portsmouth. Both of a type that could be laid by a submarine and in water of sufficient depth for a submarine to operate. These mines had apparently been only recently laid, and there is no evidence to show that this had been done either from the air or by surface craft. In addition unexplained explosions have been observed South of St. Albans Head and South of the Nab Tower. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1803B/24 to Admty.)

ADVENTURE. Following stores and personnel shipped in ADVENTURE. (N.A.S.O. Milford Haven 1815B/24.)

Casualties and Defects.

S.O.S. Cullercoats Radio reports:- Automatic S.O.S. heard 1155 G.M.T. Details 1355. (C. in C. Rosyth 1409/24 to Admty.)

S.O.S. Cullercoats reports:- Automatic S.O.S. signal heard at Wick Radio and Cullercoats Radio at 1155 G.M.T. bearing from Cullercoats Radio 095° and from Wick Radio 116° approx. Ends. T.O.O. 1204/24. (C. in C. Rosyth 1506/24.)

Shipping and Convoys.

STRATHEDEN. To be prepared for voyage commencing probably about 7/8. of some ten days in each direction. (D.S.T. 0312B/24 to D.S.T.O. Glasgow.)

LEOPOLDVILLE. Proposed to use for D.S.9 which will probably sail Clyde about 6/8. (D.S.T. 0313B/24 to D.S.T.O. Glasgow.)

Escorts. For F.N., E.C., and F.S. convoys. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1319N/24 amending his 1319B/24) See Lion Copy.

/H.G. 67 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

H.G. 67
S.L. 79 — Arrived together and complete. H.G.67, 24 ships. Commodore Vice.Adm. Mackworth (2 allied, 2 neutral). S.L.79, 6 ships (2 allied) Commodore Butler, R.N.R. Cargoes. (D.S. 628, 24/7.)

W.S.10. — Your 1240B/22. WORCESTERSHIRE should be sailed with W.S.10 (date) (D.O.D.(H) 1328B/24 to F.O.C.N.P.)

C.A.M. ships. — Repetition of C. in C.W.A's 2201B/22. (D.T.D. 1953B/24 to N.C.S.O's.)

W.S.8 C. — Arrangements for assembly. (V.A.C.T.C. 2223B/24 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

COMMANDANT BORY. — French Sloop Minesweeper COMMANDANT BORY. P.C. & S. 038° 25' N., 009° 33' W., 345° 7 knots. (ALOUETTE, 0730A/24 to Admty etc).

MANCHESTER. — My 1150B/23. Air escort today will be Sunderland. (F.O.C.N.A.,1134B/24 to MANCHESTER etc)

Submarines Employment. — Intend to act on suggestion given in my 1742B/11. (F.O.C.N.A., 1208B/24 to Admty).
Your 1208B/24. This is not desired. See A.M. 1904B/10 to C. in C. Med., and repeated to you. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1959B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

WISHART, AVON VALE, MANCHESTER, FIREDRAKE. — WISHART sail to relieve AVON VALE escorting MANCHESTER estimated position 036° 42' N., 000° 20' W. at 2100A/24. AVON VALE then proceed best speed to meet and escort FIREDRAKE, see 0710B/24 from Malta. AVON VALE if necessary fuel as ordered by MANCHESTER before proceeding. (F.O.C.N.A., 1354B/24 to MANCHESTER, AVON VALE)
W.D. Note. - See also Mediterranean for other signals concerning this operation (Substance).
Your 1354. Have oiled AVON VALE at 2130B my position 036° 42' 000° 28'.
(MANCHESTER, 2143B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1354B and 2143B from MANCHESTER. Am proceeding at 25 knots. Intend to pass through 000° Cape (?Be)ngut 8 miles at 0400B/25, steering 85°.
(AVON VALE, 2155B/24 to F.O.C.N.A., ERIDGE).

MANCHESTER (damaged by torpedo.) — Approx. draught forward 21' aft 27' 6". List nil. Maximum correction made by transfer of fuel and water. Until 200 tons military forces and equipment and topweight between upper 199 (corrupt group) deck are landed unable to make further correction. Torpedo struck at bulkhead 198 port side. (Damage details) Ship probably not sufficiently under control to enter harbour without assistance. Casualties. (MANCHESTER, 1811B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CLYDE. — Following instructions issued for guidance during your patrol. (i) Assume enemy Merchant ships may be disguised as Neutral or British. (ii) Attention called to given wqr order No. 33. Para 18, these signals will be transmitted on G Routine at night. (iii) Suspicious vessels which are intercepted are to be reported by W/T and escorted towards Gibraltar. Arrangements for further escort will be made. (F.O.C.N.A., 1736B/24 to CLYDE).

/M.G.1.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

M.G.1. E.T.A. of M.G.1. Gibraltar, Group 1, dawn/26, group 2, 1800/26, group 3 0100/27 July. SVENOR 0100/28. (F.O. 18 C.S., 2351B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

ERLANGEN (German). My 2336Z/23. Buenos Aires reports ERLANGEN cleared port at 0030 G.M.T./24 . (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 0154Z/24 to R.A.S.A.D.)
ERLANGEN left Mar del Plata 2230 G.M.T./23. (C. in C. S.A., 0937N/24 to S.A. Sqdn). Note. difference in time.
Your 0027B/25. Following is repetition of text R.A.S.A.D., 1031Z/24 to me only (begins). Your 2336Z/23 and your 0154Z/24. It is essential to (?know) real time ERLANGEN clears harbour (ends). (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1321Z/25 to Admty).
My 1031Z/24. Confirmed that ship cleared from Harbour at 0030 G.M.T./24.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1124Z/24 to R.A.S.A.D.)

HAGEN (German). Report received that HAGEN, was heard calling Pernambuco by W/T at 1019Z/5/7. Signal was heard by ROSEWOOD in 02.35 N., 38.55W., and was fairly strong. No previous indication of this ship being in South Atlantic. Possibly one of the ships recently sailed from South America Port using HAGEN call sign. (C. in C. S.A., 0155N/24 to S.A. Stn).

LITIOPA. Your 1911B/22. (Summary of raider activities) LITIOPA arrived Takoradi 2/7. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 0605N/24 to Admty).

Takoradi. Vessels bound to Takoradi direct should be instructed not to approach within six miles of the port during hours of darkness. (C. in C. S.A., 1033N/24 to Admty amended 2130N/24).

Greek King and Ministers. F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1729/22/7. I agree with proposals and that passage in transport is more satisfactory unless special ship is provided. Suggest cruiser be provided by Admty to escort DURBAN CASTLE from Trinidad or some position at sea about 15° N., from which QUEEN OF BERMUDA would proceed to Newport News.
(C. in C. S.A.1135N/24 to Admty).

/Air R/C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Air R/C C. Verde.	Intend to carry out Air R/C with Hudsons round Cape Verde Islands where 'U' Boats recently reported. (C. in C. S.A., 1147N/24 to Admty).
Free French and Vichy Ships.	Should Free French Warships intercept and detain Vichy French Merchant Ships as British Warships are directed to do? If yes, presume they would do so under the same conditions and instrucitons. -PRESIDENT HOUDUCE is proceeding off Lobito to report movements of GASCON if seen. (C. in C. S.A., 1239N/24 to Admty).
Force Z.	Departure 1300/24. EAGLE, DUNEDIN on operations. (General, St. Helena, 1335/24 to Admty etc).
D' ENTRECASTEAUX. (French).	My 0930/19. D'ENTRECASTEAUX requisitioned by Union Authorities at East London 23/7 without incident. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1338B/24 to Admty, C. in C. S.A.)
STELLA AFRICANA (Italian).	Captain of Port has received authority to permit sailing and they will probably ask clearance today. This morning Italian A/C left Natal at 0500 hours local time for Salt Island and aeroplane from Rome left Salt Island about same time this morning for Natal. Vessels are obviously awaiting reports from those aeroplanes before deciding way of sailing. (Consul, Pernambuco, 1430Z/24 to Admty) Passed to CILICIA. (C. in C. S.A. 2331N/24).
SAIMAA, KUURSUMMES.	Owners of Finnish ships SAIMAA and KUURSUMMES have instructed agents in Montevideo to try and arrange charters for these ships on trade between Uruguay and North America. They are trying to sell cargo SAIMAA locally. (?Masters) are reported pro-British and anxious to sail. What are Admiralty's instructions? (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1507Z/24 to S.O.(I) Freetown).
ROSEWOOD CHATEAUROUX collision.	N.C.S.O. Freetown's 1245/23. ROSEWOOD was in collision with CHATEAUROUX in 06.53 N., 14.14 W., 23/7 and both ships are now at Freetown. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1743N/24 to Admty).
CLEMATIS TUNISIA.	Left Convoy 1800/23. Instructed by MORETON BAY to look for TUNISIA who fell out with engine trouble at 1000/22 in 021° 17' N., 024° 07' W. Not seen in position at 1330/24. With CYCLAMEN towards Freetown at 11 knots. WOODRUFF and MIGNONETTE staying with Convoy until 24th then carrying out your 2201N/17. (?CLEMATIS, 1800N/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

/ANTONIO.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ANTONIO LIMONCELLI, STELLA. — Chief of Naval Staff informs me he will not give permission for ANTONIO LIMONCELLI to sail from Maranham. STELLA from Pernambuco has been given permission to proceed but if she does not leave by 1800/24 permission will be cancelled. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1906Z/24 to Admty).

ORION. — A.T. 1658B/13 and N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1525Z/16. ORION can be accepted at Mare Island on West Coast. C. in C. S.A. requested to sail her when ready via St. Helena, Trinidad and San Diego (California). (D.O.D. (F) 1918B/24 to C. in C. S.A.)

SAMARIA — Your 0338/31/5. Transport SAMARIA sailed for U.K. 22/7. Oil leak of long standing now becoming serious. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1602B/24)

Mediterranean.

A/C Patrol. — Swordfish will be on anti S/M patrol one at a time from 0530B today. (V.A. Malta, 0050B/24 to F.O. 18 C.S.)

Convoy G.M.1 SYDNEY STAR torpedoed. — -SYDNEY STAR torpedoed port side No. 3 interior. Have embarked troops. SYDNEY STAR underway making 12 knots course 115°. My position 036° 50' N., 012° (08' 12' or 32') E. SYDNEY STAR 107. (NESTOR, 0415B/24 to C.S.18). (W.D. Note attack was by E-boat, see 1545/24).
SYDNEY STAR draws 40 ft. forward, 30 ft. aft, pump barely holds. 14½ knots for Malta + at (?principal) bulkhead. Will require docking or beaching on arrival. (HERMIONE, 1043B/24 to V.A. Malta).
-Your 1043/B/24, do not risk bulkhead, reduce speed as necessary. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1156B/24 to HERMIONE).
Cruiser berthed. (?Convoy) off searched channel. SYDNEY STAR damaged but making 10 knots, E.T.A. 1430 today. (V.A. Malta, 1215B/24 to S.O. Force H).

ERIDGE, escorting FIREDRAKE (bombed 23/7). — P.C. & S. 037° 27' N., 009° 25' E (?265°) 8 knots. FIREDRAKE in tow. Shadowed. (ERIDGE, 0710B/24 to S.O. Force H).

/18 C.S.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

18 C.S. Air search reveals no enemy ship in your vicinity. (V.A. Malta, 0739B/21 to F.O. 18 C.S.)

Convoy G.M.1. E.T.A. Malta. E.T.A. 1025 in EDINBURGH with ARETHUSA and MANXMAN in company. Request gate 1130. COSSACK MAORI, SIKH, FOXHOUND FARNDALE and five M.T. ships P.C. and S. at 0730 036° 04' N., 013° (? 30') E., 103° 14 knots , Capt (D) 4 detaching FARNDALE at 1000 to Malta. HERMIONE detached to assist NESTOR and ?SYDNEY STAR M K S M and then to Malta at 1000. (C.S. 18 0818B/24 to V.A. Malta). Three Beau Fighters leaving for you now. (V.A. Malta, 0854B/24 to ?)

A/C attack. The Following has been read addressed Malta W/T from COSSACK. Enemy bombing ONSET 096. (Nore W/T, 0945/24). One torpedo bomber attacked convoy, torpedo missed. (COSSACK, 0952/24 to C.S.18). Your 0729 (N.T. in W.R.) intend keeping FARNDALE (COSSACK, 0956/24, to C.S.18) Fighters are being sent to your assistance. (N.O.I.C. Malta, 1000/24 to ?COSSACK).

VILJA (Norwegian). Your 1709B/23. Arrived Suez 6/7 held at safe anchorage Gulf of Suez for orders. Naval Store Officer, Port Said. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 0951C/24 to Admty).

Enemy Units. S J 8 Z M D. One M/V one destroyer one cruiser patrolling bearing A/C 318 from Malta. (Med., A/C 1000/24).

HERMIONE bombed. Dive bombed by 6 Ju. 87, no damage, one believed shot down. Due to manoeuvring SYDNEY STAR's speed reduced to 10 knots. (HERMIONE, 1001B/24 to C.S.18).

Germany and Turkey. (1) Evident from recent reports that in contrast with their attitude before Russian war, German Embassy circles now fully expect demands on Turkey when Russia campaign ends.
(2) German Minister Kroll stated to intimate friend on 22/7 that at the moment "Turkey would be made to define her policy."
All above A.1. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1043C/24 to S.O.(I) Med-.).

/Benghazi bombed.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Benghazi bombed.

Night 22/23/7. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour. Bombs fell on north end and base of Cathedral Mole and near Outer Mole.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1047/24).

ISIS, HYACINTH.

My 1759/23 (N.T. in W.R.). If a destroyer is not available it is intended to send HYACINTH to escort ISIS as far as Port Said.
(N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports, 1050/24 to C. in C. Med)

A/C code word.

Code Word of calling for detachment FLUSH "CANON FOUR". Inform SVENORTIN. (V.A. Malta, 1058B/24 to GLOXINIA).

Greek Fleet.

Admiral Sakellariou 22/7 reports greatly improved morale and suggested employment of ships as follows: (corrupt group) to do Escort work in Red Sea. Destroyers now available to work anywhere in Eastern Mediterranean outside Aegean but Admiral, stressed again, the need for improvement of A/A armament. S/Ms work outside Aegean or from Malta if required.
Proposal shows an evident advance in outlook but until proper A/A armament is fitted I shall continue to restrict the sphere of activity of Greek warships. (C. in C. Med., 1154C/24 to Admty).

ENCOUNTER bombed.

Enemy bombing "CANNON 2."
(ENCOUNTER 1230/24 1250/24 to Malta W/T).
Following received. Enemy aircraft are attacking CANNON ONE 37° N., 8° E., 19.
(Med. Fleet Convoy, No. T.O.O./24 to any British Man of War).

Italian Fleet.

Air R/C 24/7 Visual reports no change in dispositions of Italian Fleet at Taranto, Messina, Palermo. (V.A. Malta, 1305B/24 to C. in C. Med., S.O. Force H).
My 1305B/24 confirmed by photograph.
(V.A. Malta, 1634B/24).

OTUS.

Leaves 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2100B/24 direct for 032° 16' 019° 52' arriving about 0900B/27
Anticipated position 2100B/26 033° 07' 018° 50'
T.O.O. 1340B/24.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1346B/24 to Med., Fleet).
OTUS, Sailed. (V.A. Malta, 2025B/24)

/Tobruk.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941 Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Tobruk Libya. Appreciation. (C. in C. M.E., 1354/24 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

Force X. Reuturn Route. (V.A. Malta, 1354B/24 to S.O. Force H). (See 2014B/24).
6 Beau Fighters will provide escort for Force X at 0615/25 for as long as possible in position 000° Galita Island 15 miles.
(V.A. Malta, 1940B/24 to C.S.18) Cancelled see 0510B/25.
Cancel my 1354B/24. In view of hectic night enjoyed by Force X they have been given return route by French territorial waters which was used successfully by M.E.1. Cruisers and MANXMAN will pass through position 225 U 10 miles speed 25 at 0430B/25 and remainder at 0530B/25 speed 26 knots. (V.A. Malta, 2014B/24 to S.O. Force H).

-G.M.1. Operation Substance. Whole convoy G.M.1 less FEARLESS and ERIDGE arrived Malta. Attacked by T.B.'s H.L.B.'s .D.B's and E boats. SYDNEY STAR one hit from E boat.
(C.S. 18, 1545B/24 to S.O. Force H).
SUBSTANCE convoy arrived safely. SYDNEY STAR damaged by torpedo but cargo lost probably slight.
(V.A., Malta, 1645B/24 to Admty etc).
Sailed 1730 EDINBURGH, ARETHUSA, HERMIONE, MANXMAN. 1845 COSSACK, MAORI, SIKH, FOXHOUND, NESTOR, FARNDALE remaining Malta with condenser trouble. (V.A. Malta, 1914B/24 to Admty).

Turkey. Chiefs of Staff No. 149. (1st S.L., 1623B/24 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Main Fleet. Departure 23/7 Falk, LATONA, Greek Destroyer SPETSAI. Arrival 24/7 QUEEN ELIZABETH, VALIANT, AJAX, NAIAD, PHOEBE, CARLISLE, HAVOCK, HASTY, NIZAM, JACKAL, KIPLING, GRIFFIN, KINGSTON, HOBART. Departure 24/7 TRITON, FORMIDABLE.
(S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1837C/24 to Admty etc).

E/B attack. C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hours 24/7. P.M. 23/7, Beaufighters incoming convoy attacked E boat east Pantellaria left sinking.

M/Vs attacked Trapani. Part 3. (?p.m.) 23/7, four Blenheims attacked M/Vs Trapani. No opposition. 1 M/V 7,000 tons 1 hit and hits by incendiaries resulting in sheet of flame and smoke. 1 M/V 3,000 tons BN 2 direct hits ship on fire believed sunk.
(H.Q. Malta, 1900/24).

/CANADA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

CANADA. French Hospital Ship proceeding Beirut, was in 034° 48' N., 022° 12' E., at 1611/18 steering 90°. If encountered she is to be allowed to proceed. Haifa pass to Hq. P. and T.J. (C. in C. Med., 1958C/24 to Med., Fleet etc).

Syria Shipping. Following is a repetition of my 1202C/20/7 Y our 0012/12. Situation regarding shipping originally in Syrian waters is as follows. All warships auxiliary naval craft and merchant vessels have left except that British PEGASUS is submerged alongside North Mole and French state that BRODWAL andLESBIAN were sunk outside100 fathom line off Beirut after being damaged by bombing. A certain number of harbour craft remain in Beirut. French OUAD YQUEM is still at Casteloritzo. N.A. Ankara is obtaining details of ships interned at Alexandretta. (C. in C. Med., 2030/24 to Admty).

ADOUR (French). Consul Iskanderun reports Vichy Tanker ADOUR and (?) 1 motor trawler leaving harbour 1310/24. Turkish Military Commander reports move permitted on orders from Ankara. Destination unknown. N.A. Ankara interrogating General Staff immediately. Meantime I have ordered aircraft to intercept and order ships to Famagusta and to sink ships in event of failure to comply. (C. in C. Med., 2202C/24 to Admty).

Daily Summary 688:-

BASARABIA) TRANSILVANIA) Roumanian, both still at Istanbul on 22/7.

ALBA JULIA, Roumanian, loading delayed, not expected to sail before 26/7.

BALCIC, Roumanian, loading at Istanbul on 22/7.

CAPO ARMA, Italian, loading at Istanbul, on 22/7.

SZEGED, Hungarian, idle at Istanbul on 22/7.

ABBAZIA, Italian, E.T.A. Shortly at Istanbul.

PELES. Roumanian, E.T.A. shortly at Istanbul.

Situation report 96. Operation M.E. 3. Battlefleet has returned to Alexandria. Fleet was shadowed by aircraft on 23rd but was not attacked. Believed fleet not sighted 24th.

2. NEPTUNE, LEANDER, ABDIEL, LATONA and 4 destroyers detached to continue operation GUILLOT reinforcing Cyprus from Port Said.

3. French auxiliary tanker ADOUR and Trawler reported by N.A. Ankara to have left Iskanderun P.M./24 destination unknown.

4. Tripoli convoy, see H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1600/23 (C. in C. Med., 2330C/24 to Admty amended 1300C/2

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Mine Sweeping and Watching.

Progress of Organisation, and requirements.
(C. in C. E.I., 0630Z/24 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

ATREUS
ALSEY,
mining.

S.N.O. Red Sea's 1707/22 is being passed to Admiralty and C. in C. Med., Mine Carrier ATREUS pass to C. in C. East Africa Intend to approve. Eventual despatch of ALSEY for duty envisaged in your 2343/9 can be made from Red Sea.
(C. in C. E.I., 0734Z/24, to Admty.)

Reports by American Ships at Aden.

S.N.O.R.S. 1242/23/7 being passed to you. (1) Hy 1956/9/7 also raised the matter of W/T silence. Suggest desirability of instituting now the Chatfold system of reporting movements and considering them in same category as Allied ships for table censorship purposes.
(C. in C. E.I., 1050Z/24, to Admty.)

GEORGIOS G.
Greek.

Overdue. Left Aden 3rd for Mogadishu, not arrived.
(D.S.T.O. Mombasa, 0535Z/24 to S.N.O.R.S.)
(S.O.I. Colombo, 1112Z/24, to Admty., etc.)

Indian Ocean.

Anchorages. (C. in C. E.I., 1442Z/24, to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

Force T.

Seychelles departure 1030Z/24 HERMES and ENTERPRISE.
(S.O.I., Colombo, 1446Z/24, to Admty.)

PRESIDENT DOUMER.

To be sailed for Berbera as soon as possible to embark prisoners of war for Mombasa, after disembarkation at Mombasa vessel allocated for movement of 25th Brigade referred to in D. of S.T. 2217B/15.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 2001/24, to D.S.T.O. Suez.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

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Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

China

TAI-SEUN-HONG. (French.) — Arrived 23/7. (N.C.S.O. Hong Kong, 0225z/24 to M. of W.T.)

COMPIEGNE
ALBERT SARRAUT — Arrived 23/7. (Saigon, 0303Z/24, to M. of W.T.)

Miri oilfield — 1st S.L 1136/3/24. See Operations Volume.

Japanese submarine incident. — Alleged incident of British man-of-war firing near bows of Japanese submarine south of Waglan light at 1600/18. Aide Memoire from Senior A.D.C. of Minister of Marine. (N.A. Tokyo, 1552/24 to Cdre. i/c Hong Kong)

ISIS — C. in C. Med. 1012/22. Can ISIS be taken in hand Singapore for permanent action damage repairs? Ship should be available at Singapore about the end of August. (D.O.D. (F) 1709B/24, to A.S. Singapore.)

America & West Indies

VAR (French) — Following received from U.S. Naval Authorities (begins) Alusna, Ottawa, has been requested to deliver to C.N.S., Ottawa for information. It has been reported by a Naval Observer that on 23/7 the French Tanker VAR will make a trip to Saintes Islands to refresh the crew. On 22/8 she will return to Fort de France. 0137/24. (ends) (D.D.I.C., 0311B/24, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

EMILE BERTIN
BEARN
JEANNE D'ARC
(French) — My 1009Q/22. Result of air R/C of Trinidad 23/7. EMILE BERTIN not at Fort de France. BEARN at Fort de France. JEANNE D'ARC, only at Pointe A Pitre Guadaloupe repainted dark grey. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0939Q/24 to Admty. Amended 1509Q/24)
Your 1633/23 and C. in C. A.W.I's 0939/24. Following received from Navy Dept. EMILE BERTIN observed by U.S. A/C alongside at Fort de France at 1000/24. (B.A.D. Washington, 1949R/24 to Admty.)

Auxiliary Aircraft Carriers — Your 1145R/10. These 6 ships will meet immediate requirements but may be necessary to ask for further 6 ships at future date. (Head of M. 1039B/24 to B.A.D. Washington)

/QUEEN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday..

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

QUEEN OF BERMUDA. — Admty. 1601/14/7 and 2109/11/7. List of principal items and of defects. (QUEEN OF BERMUDA, 1135B/24, to B.A.D., Washington.)

Shipping Diversions. — Admty., 0001/1/5 section 2 para. 11 and Amendment No. 26. Could not necessary diversions be achieved by ordering ships to pass through new positions given by bearings and distances from existing lettered positions on ocean routes? This would obviate any additional lettered reference positions other than A to E inclusive of above amendment. (Capt. 1/c Kingston, 1223R/24, to C. in C. A.W.I.) Replies 1242/25. 1759/25.

TORONTO CITY. — Now overdue ten days. Have you any news? (C.C.N.F., 1455N/24, to Admty.)

BANGALORE. — 33. Your 1002R/23. BANGALORE sank as result of collision with RICHMOND CASTLE. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1852Q/24 to S.O.I. Jamaica.)

Spanish Ships, Bermuda. — Your 1916B/19. Information regarding calls of these ships also received by Chesor, Bermuda. Herbert's telegram 0/4896 of 18/7 refers. I am assuming vessels are calling voluntarily and they will be treated on same lines as American export ships. Suggest Herbert be requested to keep Admiralty closely informed. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1856Q/24, to Admty.)

PRINCE DAVID. DOMINION MONARCH. — Your 1022Q/23. Concur. Escort is required. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1906B/24, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

RODNEY. — On completion of refit request you will sail RODNEY to Bermuda to work up. RODNEY will probably be required to relieve NELSON in Force H. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2032B/24 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

24.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

O.B.336. (Attacked 24/6.)

Your 1655B/14, (asking for report of broadcast in P/L by Cape Race Radio.) Cape Race broadcast on UNE W.R. following messages in accordance with D.M.S. para 148 (B) (I) received from a ship which did not identify herself.
1. "0915/24 S.S.S.S.55.12N., 38.32W convoy attacked by submarines." 2. "0935/24 S.S.S.S. 55.11N 38.35W convoy OB 336 attacked by submarine".
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2212Z/24 to Admty.)

Trinidad fuelling.

Your 1630B/21, Trinidad's 1658Q/23 and Curacao's 1700Q/23. Propose that northbound ships use Trinidad and southbound ships use Curacao. In case of (?congestion) at Curacao ships should be diverted to Aruba by O.B.M.S. message. Essential S.N.O. Curacao should have ample notice of arrival to enable him to communicate with Bermuda to originate diversion.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2242Q/24 to Admty.)

Trinidad.

N.O.i/c Trinidad 1615Q/23 being passed to you. Request urgent action be taken through diplomatic channels for repatriation to be arranged in order to relieve congestion.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 1851Q/24 to Adty.)

Australia.

Port Darwin.

Admty., 1810B/14/6. Proposal to mine Port Darwin has been abandoned.
(A.C.N.B., 0619Z/24 to Admty., C. in C.China.)

AQUITANIA.

Your 1801B/19/6 "C" deck considered most suitable for carriage of prisoners of war.
(A.C.N.B., 0940Z/24 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 24.7.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0448 G.M.T. D/F bearing at (?0448) G.M.T. indicates Italian S/M in vicinity of 035° 50' N. 012° - 014° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0849B/24 to S. and A. North Atlantic)

Estimated U.B. dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1414B/24)

1500/20. Master S.S. LEHIGH reports sighted and passed closely large S/M apparently Italian at 1500/20 45.51 N. 21.52 W. apparently on S.W. course. S/M had both deck guns and A/A manned and ready. (Consul, Vigo, 1644/24 to Gibraltar.)

1930 G.M.T/22 Your 1930B/23. A.M. 0256B/23 confirmed. Sighting reports are not necessarily made in form laid down in A.M.1926 B/25/6. (D.D.I.C. 1809B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

VIMY.
AVON VALE. VIMY and AVON VALE attacked good contact probably S/M approx. 036° 55' 40" N. 001° 56' E. at 1545A/24. Result destruction thought probable. (VIMY, 1520A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.W. 43 shelled.

Batteries at Gris Nez fired 14 rounds between 0001 and 0046 today during passage of C.W. 43 past Dover. No damage was done to the ships and no naval damage was caused at Dover where one Naval rating was wounded.

SCHARNHORST.

Distant oblique photographs at 2030/24 showed SCHARNHORST at La Pallice apparently preparing to sail.

British Air Activity.

Cross over patrols could not be maintained continuously last night west of Brest owing to bad weather, but a cross over distant 120 to seaward from Lorient and St. Nazaire was flown from midnight to 0500/25.

49 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Kiel, and 41 Emden last night.

Mining.

ACHATES mined.

ACHATES sailing for operation A.F.V.4 was mined and damaged in fog at 0300 today in approx. 64° 11' N., 13° 0' W.

Six Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

South Atlantic.

NEWCASTLE today intercepted ERLANGEN (German) in 41° S., 50° W. The ship scuttled herself and sank later. She had left Mar del Plata yesterday.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operation SUBSTANCE.

Six Swordfish were flown off to Malta at 0100. Forces H and X joined company at 0815, 26 miles N.W. of Galita Island and steered for Gibraltar covering Convoy M.G.1. in which some women and children were evacuated from Malta. An attempted air attack at 1107 was completely broken up and driven off by fighters.

The total air losses during the operation are reported to be as follows:-
Enemy - 12 certain, 2 probable, 2 damaged.
Own - 6 Fulmars (4 crew saved.)

Malta.

Enemy aircraft reconnoitred Malta today; several of them were shot down.

Libya and Western Desert.

6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night and claim to have hit ships west of the Cathedral Mole.

China.

It is reported that about 40,000 Japanese troops will land in French Indo-China between 27/7 and 30/7. (with acquiescence of the Vichy Govt.)

America & West Indies.

It has been announced that 6 Danish and one Roumanian and 9 Italian ships at present lying in American ports are to be put into service with U.K. under Panamanian flag.

Operation "Opponent".

DESPATCH left Bermuda this morning for this operation.

U-Boat Campaign.

Convoy O.G. 69 was reported by enemy aircraft early this afternoon. D/F bearings indicated that U-Boats were in the neighbourhood.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

VIMY, HIGHLANDER. Request every effort may be made to expedite working up of VIMY in order that HIGHLANDER may be relieved on South Atlantic Station without delay. HIGHLANDER is urgently required in Western Approaches. (C. in C. W.A., 1050B/25).

Swedish M/V's. Following ships are due to sail from Gothenburg (corrupt group) (a) CANADIA 29/7. (b) SATURNUS, SVEADROTT, VASAHOLM 31/7 in company.
2. All four intend passing through Skopen Fjord in company.
3. Route instructions are not asked for.
4. See my R.F. 320/145. July 24th to D.N.I. (N.A. Stockholm, 1205/25).

ORION. My 1742B/3 and 1646B/5 are cancelled. ORION will now refit in U.S.A. (D.O.D. F., 1331B/25).

Western Patrol. Re. proposed transference of S.O.W.P. from Largs to Greenock, F.O.I.C. to assume operational and administrative control of western patrol. (C. in C. W.A., 1711B/25) See Lion Copy.

Co-operation with Russia.

Request a flying boat be made available A.M./28 to take to ARCHANGEL Admiral Beven, 1 Interpreter, 1 Chief Petty Officer, 1 Telegraphist, with W/T set, and set of Confidential Books. (A.C.N.S. H., 1950B/25 to H.Q.C.C.)

Movements.

DORSETSHIRE. C. in C. Rosyth's 1759/24 and 1047/24. Consider that DORSETSHIRE must be afforded S.A. Escort on the scale of two S.A. Sweepers. C. in C. Rosyth is requested to report forthwith when any S.A. Sweeper will be available in his Command. (A.C.N.S. (H) 0024B/25 to C. in C. Nore).

ADVENTURE. A.C.N.S. (H) 0108B/25. See Operations Volume. Sailed from Seidis Fjord at 0300Z/25 ADVENTURE. (A.C.I.C., 1309/25).

TUNA, LA CAPRICIEUSE Cancel my 2104B/24 and my 0548B/25 and substitute (a) One escort vessel southbound to rendezvous with one submarine and escort her to Clyde (b) from 2100B/26 until 1400B /29 approx. Escort leaves Clyde 2100B/11 for position V.W. 6535 at 0530B/28 returning to Clyde. E.T.A. 1400B/29. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1416B/25).

/EREBUS.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

EREBUS. EREBUS is to sail from Tilbury without completing fitting of Type 285.
2. Arrangements will be made to send the unfinished items to Sheerness as soon as they become available, and the ship will be completed there or later at Scapa. (A.C.N.S. H., 1715B/25).

DORSETSHIRE, WORCESTER, WINDSOR. (1) WORCESTER is to sail from Rosyth 0800/tomorrow and proceed to Tyne to arrive 1600/26.
(2) F.O.I.C. Tyne is requested to sail DORSETSHIRE at 0700/27 to Scapa with WINDSOR and WORCESTER as S.A. escort as far as latitude of Fifeness from which position WINDSOR and WORCESTER are to proceed to Harwich at 20 knots. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1817/25).

LE TRIOMPHANT. A.T23344B/23, para 6. (List of Passengers). (D.O.D. (F) 1949B/25 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations.

SEAWOLF, TUNA. My 2336B/24. Target may reach SEAWOLF about daylight/25. SEAWOLF should not remain in patrol position after 1200B/25 proceeding as ordered in my 1724B/24.
B. TUNA leave patrol line at 0900 today 25th July and return to base as previously ordered.
(F.O.S., 0042B/25 to SEAWOLF, TUNA).
My 2336B/24. Anticipate first ship referred to in my 1401B/23 will pass through 28° D.D. 70 miles during playing of colour this morning and from there will turn right for base.
(F.O.S. 0231B/25 to SEAWOLF).

C.W. 43 shelled. Batteries at Gris Nez fired 14 rounds between 0001 and 0046/25 during passage of C.W. 43. One burst in the air over the harbour wounding one Naval rating. Two fell in the harbour, ten close outside it and one in the town. No other damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover, 0955B/25).

Operation E.F.V.4. C.S. One's 0352/25. R.A.D. is requested to sail two destroyers to replace ANTHONY and ACHATES. (C. in C. H.F., 1105B/25).

/Take ICARUS.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation E.F.V.4. Contd.

Take ICARUS under your orders and proceed when ready passing West of Orkneys and Shetlands to position X. Your object is to replace ANTELOPE and ACHATES in Force P.
With due regard to economy of fuel you should arrive in position X in time for refuelling and be ready to proceed with Force P (Operation E.F.V. paragraph 10A).
If sighted by enemy aircraft, action should be taken to avoid indicating to the enemy your intention or position of R/V.
If shadowed the fact is to be reported.
(C. in C. H.F., 1202B/25 to Capt. D.3).
INGLEFIELD and ICARUS sail 1300 today to R/V (X) to replace ANTELOPE and ACHATES.
(C. in C. H.F. 1204B/25 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)
Flag of Rear Admiral P.L. Vian, D.S.O., as F.O. C. Force A. is to be broken in NIGERIA when he goes on board at about 1730 B today. (C. in C. H.F., 1658B/25).
Operation E.F.V.2. Force P and ADVENTURE are delayed 24 hours. If necessary remain additional -24 hours in vicinity position X. INGLEFIELD and ICARUS are replacing ACHATES and ANTHONY.
(F.O.C. 1st C.S., 1929B/25 to ECLIPSE, ECHO).
25th C.S.1. in DEVONSHIRE, FURIOUS, VICTORIOUS, SUFFOLK, ACHATES in tow, and destroyers.
(A.C.I.C., 2248/25).

Western Patrol.

Intended programme. (S.O. Western Patrol 1500B/25)
See Lion Copy.

Operation GIDEON.

Intend sailing M.G.B.42 at 2330 today to join 3rd Motor Gunboat Flotilla. E.T.A. Needles 0500.
(4th M.T.B. Divn. 1740/25).
Para 9. Amend position in first sentence to read:- 020° Fecamp 8 miles. (V.A. Dover 1743B/25).
Preparative operation GIDEON.
(V.A. Dover, 2000B/25).

Brown Ridge Patrol.

Departure M.G.B.59, 63, 65,
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2206B/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Attacks on Battle Cruisers etc.

Day 24/7. Heavy daylight attack on GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN at Brest and SCHARNHORST at La Pallice with diversion at Cherbourg. From reports so far received 7 direct hits were registered on GNEISENAU. PRINZ EUGEN and the large tanker both straddled and probably damaged. Severe damage inflicted on Barracks and dock buildings adjacent to targets. SCHARNHORST received direct hit, evening 23/7, and was heavily attacked during same night. Today 15 Halifaxes attacked and claim another direct hit. 35 Blenheims attacked whale ship OLE WEGGER at Cherbourg. Much damage was inflicted. 17 tons of bombs released on and around target. (H.Q.B.C., 0320/25). See Lion Copy.

Patrols.

Cancel my 1522/25. (C. in C. Rosyth 0016/26).
One long range Hudson to R/C La Pallice for enemy force. If force not located at La Pallice A/C is to search northwards along French Coast to Brest A/C to report and shadow. If enemy force located stationary at La Pallice A/C to report and return to base. Above Recco subject to satisfactory cloud cover.
A/C to take off forthwith.
(Plymouth A.C.H.Q., 1020/25 to St. Eval).
Patrol Voe A and Voe B discontinued until further notice owing to low visibility.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1308/25).
A/S patrol of exercise area will be flown by 18 Group from 2330/25 till 0430/26.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1522/25).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy S.L. 80 reported.

S.L. 80 has also been reported by German aircraft. (D.D.I.C., 1310B/25).

A/C off Seidis Fjord.

Request I may be informed whether a twin engined float plane was known to be operating off Seidis Fjord at 1800B today. A machine resembling a Heinkel 115 was sighted by a Walrus at that time and took drastic avoiding action in cloud after replying incorrectly to challenge.
(C.S. One 2158B/25 to A.C.I.C.)

Convoy F.S.

Convoy EVIDENCE is being shadowed by 2 enemy aircraft in 53° 25' N., 0° 56' E. (WINCHESTER, 2238/25).

Convoy F.N. Even.

Convoy PRIZE is being shadowed by one enemy aircraft bearing 050° in 55° 4' N., 1° 13' W.
(LIDDESDALE, 2247/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

ACHATES mined.

ACHATES mined forward approx. 064° 11' N.,013° 00' W., at 0300(?25) in fog. Probably proceeding westward stern first. ANTELOPE standing by. (C.S.1. 0352B/25).
Proceeding Seidis Fjord ACHATES in tow. (ANTHONY 0815B/25).
ACHATES mined. Position. Request you sail tug ASSURANCE to assist. (C. in C. H.F., 1242B/25 to A.C.I.C.)
ACHATES reports flooded to 59 bulkhead, hull buckled to 129 station and has vertical slit. 65 ratings missing, consider ACHATES was mined on edge of QZX 385 due to strong easterly (?) set.
My 0352B/25 for ANTELOPE read ANTHONY. (C.S.1. 1754B/25).

Thames Estuary.

One magnetic mine detonated by LL Drifters at 0710/25/7 in 073°. Warp Buoy 7½ cables. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 0930/25).

Operation N.L. 9.

Intend to carry out operation N.L. 9 tonight. (V.A. Dover 1244B/25).
Two motor launches will be operating close to the coast between Calais and Griz Nez tonight. Request arrangements may be made that they shall on no account be illuminated by flares from friendly aircraft. (V.A. Dover, 1247B/25 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.B.C.)

Explosions on 24/7.

Unexplained explosions. 52° 7.5' N., 1° 37.9' E. at 1602/24. 3 explosions .S.S.E. Walton, distant, at 1807/24. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1456B/25).

Irish Minefield.

Following information received from N.A. Dublin and graded A.1. begins:-
Single line of controlled mines now operative in Waterford Harbour. Approximate positions.
Similar minefield will shortly be laid in -entrance to Cork Harbour. Probable position.
Mines are about 500 lbs. and constructed locally.
Sufficient material is available for similar field in the Shannon now being contemplated. No contact or other type laid anywhere.
(D.N.I., 1338B/25).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

La Pallice SCHARNHORST. P.R.U. Sortie at 2030/24 shows SCHARNHORST at previously reported berth. Six tugs and several motor boats are attendant on her and appear to be shifting the nets and assisting her to depart. Smoke is coming from her funnel. Two destroyers have left the wet dock and one is seen in Roads. Two still in the outer port. (P.R.U., Benson, 0200/25).

Tanker off Belle Isle. Aircraft report tanker possibly escorted by warship in 047° 08' N., 003° 20' W., steering 260°., at 2100. (F.O.S., 2331B/25 to SEAWOLF).
Note. Message not passed to SEAWOLF on instructions from F.O.S.

Technical.

Oiling at Sea. An aircraft carrier has successfully fuelled from DALE Class oiler on three occasions using trough method. Details (4th S.L., 2023B/25).

Casualties & Defects.

T.L.C. 25. Explosion on board. Two ratings seriously injured, burns. (Names).
(N.O.I.C. Oban 1825B/25).

COTSWOLD. Damage to after seats of manoeuvring valve. Request berth alongside and tug as soon as practicable. (COTSWOLD 1845B/25).

Shipping & Convoys.

O.G. 69. Reported by A/C and U/B. (See U-Boat Campaign).

T.C.12. Due to arrive U.K. about 29/7. and will comprise following ships, Capacity etc. Future employment of ships. (D. of S.T., 0137B/25 to P.S.T.O. W. Scotland, etc).
My 0137/25. Included in STRATHMORE will be 416 U.S. Technicians. (D.S.T., 1637B/25).

Shortage of Escorts, Rosyth. Your 0024B/25/7. VERSATILE now fitted S.A. typeA and will escort E.C. 51. VALOROUS and WESTMINSTER will complete fitting shortly. Emphasise that only bare minimum of convoy escorts are available at Rosyth to enable existing programme of east coast convoys to be carried out. When two destroyers from Rosyth command have to be exployed as S.A. sweepers, cancellation or reduction of escort of certain convoys is inevitable.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1109/25 to Admty).

/ RN. and F.S...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

F.N. and F.S. Escorts. My 1150B/23 and 1319B/24 amend as follows, for AGATE read LADY PHILOMENA. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1657B/25 to C, in C. Nore).

H.X.137. Eleven hours late at R/V on account of fog and bad weather. One Straggler. All now arrived. (D.T.D. 1757B/25 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and Cargoes. (D.S. 688).

U.S. tankers Iceland. Expect American tankers will be sent to Iceland (c) to trans-ship oil direct to British tankers sent empty from U.K. Report maximum quantity you consider can be trans-shipped per week with safety. Also agreed that oil to meet local requirements of H.M. ships can be received from American tankers into tankers on Admiralty service. (4th S.L. 1912B/25 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

W.S.8 C. Your 2222B/24. D.C.O. and Dir. of Movets. W.O. concur in programme of Movements of ships. Allocation of personnel to ships slightly altered chiefly effecting F. 12 and A. 9. (D.C.O., 2135B/25 to V.A.C.T.C.) Cancelled, see 1946/28.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Minesweepers. Sailed BALTA LORINDA and KOS IX in accordance with my 1224/23 KOS VII did not sail owing to defect. (W/T watch details) Approx. E.T.A. Azores 31/7.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0058B/25 to Admty., etc.)

French Convoy. Passed Gibraltar eastbound 1435/23.
(D.O.R., 25/7.)

WEST POINT. Following received from U.S. Embassy: U.S.S. WEST POINT will leave Lisbon 1700 G.M.T./26.
(Res. Clerk, F.O., to Admty., 0825/25, Head of M., 1854B/25 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., etc.)

CORINTHIAN. To avoid U/Boat alter course forthwith to pass through 33° 30' N., 15° W., thence direct to Gibraltar.
(A.C.N.S.(F). 1045B/25 to CORINTHIAN.)

ST.DAY FIREDRAKE. Fleet Tug ST DAY passing 22 miles 000° from Cape Bengut steering 90°. If FIREDRAKE not met by dark today return and patrol off Cape De Gata.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1122B/25 to ST. DAY.)

Operation "Substance". Report numbers of Military and R.A.F. personnel ex SUBSTANCE now at Gibraltar.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1256B/25, to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1256B/25. Personnel now at Gibraltar and expected.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2030B/25 to Admty.)

TALISMAN THUNDERBOLT. Report maximum numbers of R.A.F., personnel which can be taken to Malta in TALISMAN and THUNDERBOLT.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1257B/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Reply: 1134/26.

HIGHLANDER VIMY. In view of changed destroyer commitments HIGHLANDER is to be sailed to U.K. as soon as practicable and VIMY is to be retained at Gibraltar until further orders.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1327B/25 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

/FIREDRAKE.....

War Diary. 25.7.41.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. Contd.

FIREDRAKE.	My P.C. and S., are 037° 10' N., 004° 00' E., 270° 9 knots at 1315B/25 under own power escorted by AVON VALE and ERIDGE, E.T.A., Gibraltar 1700B/27. (FIREDRAKE, 1335B/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)
O.24.	Netherlands S/M O24 sails p.m./28 routed N., of Balearic Islands to patrol Gulf of Genoa. She will pass East of Corsica on 4/8 to operate in the Tyrrenean Sea North of a line drawn 050° from 039° N., 010° E., leaving patrol to arrive Gibraltar 15/8. (F.O.C.N.A. 1436B/25 to C. in C. Med.)
EUGENIO C. (Italian)	Idle at Ferrol since 2/7/1940 is being prepared for sea. (D.S. 689, 25/7.)
ERNANI (Italian.)	Left Las Palmas 25/6.) From information from Las Palmas, believed sunk.(D.S. 689, 25/7.)
PALLAS (French.)	Tanker PALLAS Casablanca to Algiers is not to be molested. (F.O.C.N.A., 1707B/25, to N.A. Stn.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

ANTONIO LINONCELLI STELLA. (Italian.)	1906Z/24 from N.A. Rio de Janeiro is passed to you for information. (C. in C. S.A. 1024N/25 to CILICIA.)
ALCANTARA.	Proceed in accordance with R.A.S.A.D.'s 1736/19 direct. (C. in C. S.A., 1024N/25 to ALCANTARA.)
NIEUW ZEELAND W.S.9B.	Your 2204/11. NIEUW ZEELAND cannot arrive Durban in time to join convoy W.S.9B and on arrival ship urgently requires dry docking. Other arrangements will be made for on carriage of personnel. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1123B/25, to D. of S.T.)
DIDO.	Sailed from St. Helena 1900/24 by direct route for Trinidad, E.T.A., 1000Z/2. (C. in C. S.A., 1129N/25, to C. in C.A.W.I.)
ERLANGEN (German) intercepted.	ERLANGEN intercepted by NEWCASTLE in 41° S., 50° W. Engine and boiler rooms flooded, bridge gutted, holds on fire. Endeavouring to salve but chances very slight. CARNARVON CASTLE close at economical speed. (R.A.S.A.D., 1456Z/25, to C. in C.S.A.) My 1456Z/25. Unable to control fire in after holds, ship nearly awash aft. Intend to attempt to tow in daylight tomorrow 26/7 towards Uruguayan waters. Draught too great for Montevideo. Will try to tow to Maldonado Bay where ship could be beached if acceptable to Uruguay. Tugs will be required. Appears this entails naval steaming party, sufficient to sail ship after repairs, being (? with them) for long period. (R.A.S.A.D., 2251Z/25, to Admty.)
PRESIDENT HOUDUCE, GASCON.	Translation of orders given PRESIDENT HOUDUCE by S.N.O. of F.N.F.L. (Begins.) (A) You are to report movements of Blockaded ships to British Authorities and S.N.O. Pointe Noire. (B) Board and order ships into Point Noire. (C) Resist with force if necessary sabotage or attempted escape due to superiority of speed of GASCON. (Ends.) (Ascension, 1935N/25, to W.O., for D.N.I.)

/Your 1239/24 ..

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

PRESIDENT HOUDUCE GASCON. Contd.

Your 1239/24. PRESIDENT HOUDUCE may be employed in interception of GASCON provided that
(a) There is no risk of encountering a Vichy surface warship.
(b) Circumstances are such that attempt by Vichy warship to recapture from HOUDUCE is unlikely
(c) Captured ship is for reason of Prize Law sent in British port. Detailed instructions concerning action by Free French warships against merchant shipping will be promulgated at an early date.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2346B/25 to C. in C. S.A.)

DURBAN CASTLE escort.

Your 1135N/24.
As far as can be seen at present, no cruiser can be made available to relieve QUEEN OF BERMUDA. Probable therefore, that she will have to remain with DURBAN CASTLE until A/S escort joins.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2122B/25 to C. in C. S.A.)

NORDERNEY STELLA AFRICANA.

Chief Naval Staff informs me German N.A. asked permission this morning NORDENEY to sail. Refused. STELLA and AFRICANA have not as yet asked Captain Port Pernambuco for permit though STELLA had received permission from Ministry of Marine.
(N.A., Rio de Janeiro, 2129Z/25 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Movements.

Summary 212. (C. in C. Med., 00150/25.)
See Lion Copy.

CAPO FARO (Italian.)

Damaged by fire in an Italian port.
(D.S. 689, 25/7.)

LOASSO. RASTRELLO RENO SANTAGATA (Italian.)

From an Italian publication, known sunk some time before the end of 1940.

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Operation SUBSTANCE.

Desired to have as complete a picture as possible of Operation SUBSTANCE as soon as practicable. Reports should be signalled as soon as it is permissible to break W/T silence. F.O. Force H. also requested to collect at Gibraltar a story or stories suitable for publication in the press.
(1st. S.L. 0022B/25 to all S. & A. taking part.) Reply. (S.O. Force H., 2052B/25 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
Your 0022 25th. Urgently request as much reticence as possible be maintained about operation "SUBSTANCE" particularly regarding ultimate destination.
(C. in C. Med., 1807C/25 to Admty.)

Fighter escort for Force X.

Cancel my 1940/24.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 0510B/25, to F.O.18 C.S.)

Enemy M.V.

P.C. and S., 1 enemy M/V., V.G.S.Q. 1854 250 degs. (corrupt group)
(Med. A/C duty X, 0835/25, to Gp., H.Q., M.E.)
Note:- Position indecypherable.
My 0835. Enemy has altered course to approx., 28D (? 28°).
(Med. A/C duty X, 0915/25.)
My 0835. Enemy previously reported are of type indicated 1 M/V., 2 masts 1 funnel 4000 tons bombs short.
(Med., A/C., duty X 0930/25, to Gp., H.Q.,M.E.)
Stop her. If rude sink her.
(Gp., H.Q., M.E., 0931/25, to Med., A/C duty X.)
Correct target has fat squat funnel aft.
(Gp., H.Q., M.E., 0958/25, to Med. A/C.
Call signs 7 VJX, 7 VJC, 7 VTB, and WX6, and Cyprus.)
Have gained contact one M/V., reported (?all) bombs near.
(Med. A/C duty B., 1005/25, to Group H.Q., M.E.)
My 0835 P.C. and S., of enemy M/V NZS (?G) 1835 270° 12 knots. Am returning to base or NIC.
(Med., A/C duty X, 1025/25, to Gp., H.Q., M.E.)
(Note:- Position indecypherable.)
Position of enemy M/V 063° O.G.S.Q., 35 miles.
(Cyprus, 1025/25, to 815 Sqdn., F.A.A.)
W.D. Note:- Position indecypherable, if N.G.S.Q. = 36° N., 30° E.
(Pass to Mediterranean a/c. Duty Z (Call sign 7PC)) Attack enemy M/V who is in position 36° N., 30° E., 1235.
(Cyprus, 1321/25, to Gp., H.Q., M.E.)

/Malta.....

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Malta Swordfish. 6 Swordfish arrived safely. (V.A., Malta, 0855B/25, to S.O. Force H.)

Free French Operations. Following from Gen.Spears for Spears Mission. Following telegram has been received from Fanion. Begins. B.N.L.O., reports S.N.O., F.N.F.L. in A.F.L. offered Free French warship PRESIDENT HOUDUCE to shadow Vichy GASCON sheltering Lobito to report movements. C. in C. has accepted offer and ship is being sent. Request defined policy re Free French ships taking Vichy ships in prize. Ends.
2. General de Gaulle says if a Vichy ship is captured by the Free French its destination and that of its crew will be settled by Free French authorities. Is this agreed in London. Please inform Free French Headquarters of British decision.
(C. in C. M.E., 0910/25, to W.O.)

Benghazi. Night 23/24, 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing several fires and explosions on quay between central and Cathedral Moles. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 0941/25.)

CANADA. (French.) P. C. and S. (?French) hospital ship (?CANADA) at 16 (?23 or 43)/24 034° 48' 022° 12' 090°. She is not to be molested. (Capt. S.I. 0953C/25 to S/M's on Patrol.)

Operation "Stop" UPHOLDER. Operation STOP ends at 2130/26 when all S/Ms except UPHOLDER are to carry out previous orders within respective areas. UPHOLDER leaves area p.m./28 to arrive Malta A.M./31. Ships encountered en route through Q B B 937 are not to be attacked unless target is important. (S.O.(S)Malta, 1047B/25, to S/M's Malta Force.)

Operation "Substance". Report what numbers of Military and R.A.F. Personnel ex SUBSTANCE did not arrive and in which Ships they are believed to be. (A.C.N.S.(F)1250B/25, to V.A. Malta.)

/Your 1250/25.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

Your 1250/25.

		Officers.	Other Ranks.
LEINSTER.	R.A.F.	13.	627.
	Army.	37	237.
Remainder are Army.			
	FORESTER	4	52.
	FIREDRAKE	4	48.
	AVON VALE	1	13.
	ERIDGE	1	3.
	MANCHESTER	32	734.
Totals.		92	1714

(V.A. Malta, 1758B/25, to Admty.)

MAURO CROCE, Italian. — Departure 24/7 for Genoa. (Barcelona, 1330/25.)

LATONA. — LATONA passed boom 1530C S. of A., 32 knots. (N.O. I.C. Port Said 1532/25, to LEANDER.)

Malta Raid. — Night 24/25. 3 aircraft over. Bombs Luqa. Beaufighter damaged. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1600/25.)

SPETSAI. — Intended programme. (C.in C. Med., 18130/25th.)

Vichy French Ships in Turkey. — C. in C. Med., 23520/25. See Mediterranean Volume.

LEANDER. — Cancel my 1048C/22. On completion of serial 6 LEANDER is to return to Alexandria. On completion of work detailed in LEANDER'S 0730C /24 (N.T. in W.R.) she is to sail for Port Said to re-embark catapult. LEANDER report expected time crane will be required at Port Said. (C. in C. Med., 1817B/25, to LEANDER.)

/Vichy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Vichy Ships, Turkey.

Sec.,Gen., informed H.M. Minister this afternoon of intention of Turkish Gov., to move 11 Vichy Ships now interned in Gulf of Iskerandum to Erdek (S. coast, Sea of Marmora). Contemplated move about a week hence. No information as to return of these ships to British or Free French Forces being stipulated in terms of Syrian armistice. If so, consider difficult to arrange return of these ships once they leave Turkish southern ports.
(M.A. Ankara, 18200/25, to C. in C. Med.)

Minelaying Information.

Early report of enemy minelaying and subsequent sweeping gives Admiralty important information. Reports in accordance with C. A.F.O. 587/40 are to be prefixed important to Admiralty and made as soon as possible after raids. Brief reports of initial sweeping operations to be signalled to Admiralty (repeated C. in C. Med.,) at end of first daylight sweeping.
(C. in C. Med., 18500/25 to N.O.I.C.'s.)

UNION.

Your 17250/23. Not considered that evidence is sufficient to indicate that UNION was lost in attacking a convoy. Although Italian communiques need not necessarily be accurate, evidence on which a U boat claims to have sunk a submarine is likely to be more positive than that on which 2 Torpedo boats make a similar claim. This, together with P 33's report of having heard no D/C attack subsequent to that which she survived, makes it probable that UNION was sunk by a U Boat and that P 33 survived the T/B attack. Undesirable that S/M crews should infer that a close attack on a convoy has become more hazardous than hitherto.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2123B/25 to C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Convoy W.S.9A X.

To sail from Bombay 27/7 for Colombo escorted by -ANTENOR. Route as in N.C.S.O. Bombay's 1134/22. (C. in C. E.I., 0500Z/25 to Cdre. R.I.N., ANTENOR)

ROVER

Sailing from Colombo 0430Z/26 for Singapore. E.T.A. 2300Z/31. (Route). (C. in C. E.I. 1428Z/25 to C. in C. China).

China.

Sarawak.

1st S.L. 0023B/25 to C. in C. China. C. in C. China, 0443Z/25 to Admty. C. in C. China, 0909Z/25 to Admty. See Operations Volume.

Re refusal to ships bound from F.E. to Panama to bunker at Honolulu.

Your 1626/20. I have no knowledge of any such restriction as far as Singapore and Hong Kong are concerned. (C. in C. China 0254Z/25 to Adty.)

French Ships.

Arrival 24/7 BOUGAINVILLE, CAP TOURANNE, G.G. PASQUIER. (Saigon 0915Z/25).

Japan and Indo-China.

Two Separate reports state that about 40000 Japanese troops will land in French Indo-China between 27/7 and 30/7. Main Force will be in Saigon area. (Capt. O.S., Singapore, 1231Z/25 to Admty.)

German S/M's in Pacific.

In a scurrilous article in semi-official Japan Times 27/7 mention was made (corrupt group) German submarine having sunk British Ship between ?Costa Rica and Singapore some time ago.
On enquiry senior ADC. Mininster of Marine informed me that no German submarines are or have been in Pacific. I further gather they would not be welcomed in any case. (B.N.A. Tokyo 1729/25 to D.N.I).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

CARADOC. Bermuda departure CARADOC in accordance with my 1132Q/22. E.T.A. Kingston 1800R/28. (C. in C. A.W.I. 09030/25 to Admty.)

Personnel in CIRCASSIA. 21 Officers and 251 other ranks R.A.F. took passage in CIRCASSIA. (A.C.I.C. 0935/25 to R.A.3)

DOMINION MONARCH Escort. Your 1906B/24, in order to avoid uncovering Eastern end of Caribbean for longer than absolutely necessary, propose to provide escort from Curacao onwards only. Anticipate DOMINION MONARCH will arrive Curacao to fuel about, 7/8. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1001Q/25 to Admty.) Concur (A.C.N.S.(F) 1743/29).

WOLFE. Leave Bermuda on 28/7 and proceed by most direct route to Halifax so as to arrive 30/7. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1003Q/25 to WOLFE).

SURCOUF. Bermuda departure in accordance with my 1232Q/22/7. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1203Q/25 to Admty.)

O.N. Convoy Escorts. C. in C. W.A. 1001B/24. Request you sail 2 destroyers group 14 with each of convoy O.N.1, O.N. 2, and O.N. 3, preferably detailing RIBLEY, ASSINIBOINE of O.N. 3. Destroyers with O.N.1 and O.N. 2 should proceed to Halifax if fuel permits those with O.N. 3 to St. Johns N.F. (C.C.N.F., 1236Z/25 to A.C.I.C).

Shipping Diversions. Your 1223R/24. Object of reference positions off ocean route is presumably to provide additional security. Bearings and distances transmitted in an insecure code might divulge direction of diversion if used in connection with positions on ocean route. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1242Q/25 to Capt. i/c Kingston, Jamaica). Your 1223R/24 to C. in C. A. & W.I. This proposal could not be accepted on grounds of security. If large diversions were made as suggested it would not be difficult for the enemy to obtain valuable information regarding routes. (D.T.D. 1759B/25 to Capt. I/C Kingston).

/Operation....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Operation 'Opponent'.	Bermuda departure DESPATCH in accordance with my 1001Q/23/7. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1303Q/25 to Admty.)
EMILE BERTIN.	My 1949R/24. Information confirmed by U.S. Naval Observer at Fort De France. (B.A.D. Washington, 1333R/25 to Admty.)
STELLA AFRICANA.	Passing Pernambuco report of permission to sail. (D.N.I. 1337B/25 to N.A. Washington for Ambassador and Navy Dept.)
DIDO.	Due Trinidad 1900Z/2/8 to refit at Brooklyn. E.T.A. Request you sail her as necessary informin B.A.R.M. of any alteration in date. T.O.A. is to be adhered to. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1602Q/25 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).
LARISTAN.	Your 1973B/1. LARISTAN not yet arrived. (N.C.S.O., Port of Spain, 1706Q/25 to Admty.)
TRADER.	Admiralty 1849B/22, part 4. British ship TRADER not yet arrived. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1728R/25 to Admty.)
Atlantic Routeing.	D.T.D., 1758B /25 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. See Lion Copy.
MANCHESTER. FIREDRAKE.	Propose American Authorities be informed probable request will be made for repairs to MANCHESTER and FIREDRAKE in U.S.A. Details of damage will be forwarded as soon as known. (D. of D., 2036B/25 to B.A.R.M.)
Spanish Ships Bermuda.	My 1916/19. Now learnt that Compania Transatlant Ships will in future call voluntarily Bermuda on east bound voyages. Visas for Bermuda for all passengers will be required and this facilitates passenger control by our consuls in U.S.A. Passengers therefore should not require examination at Bermuda but samples of their baggage should be examined. In order not to discourage these voluntary calls examination of ship and sample baggage should be carried out with minimum delay. (D.E.W.D., 2049B/25 to C. in C A.W.I).

/NIKOLIMA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 25.7.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

NIKOLIMA MATKOVIC. Yugo Slavian NIKOLIMA MATKOVIC sailed Rio de Janeiro 21/6 due Sydney Cape Breton 16/7 has not arrived. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2057Z/25 to Admty.)

SOURABAYA. Is sailing in ON.3 and has 13 officers 83 ratings (F.A.A) on boards. (D.T.D. 2116B/25 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

B.A.D. and B.A.R.M. British Admiralty Delegation having taken over the handling of messages for the British Advisory Repair Mission, the separate series UKARM and ARMUK will lapse as from 0001/26. Messages for B.A.R.M. should be addressed B.A.D. Washington, from Admty., for B.A.R.M. References to messages will be by time of origin. (Office Acquaint 335 (M.O. 9656/41), 25/7/41).

Australia.

U.S.11B. Your 0247Z/21. Intend that CANBERRA should escort U.S.11B. to Singapore, fuel and return to Fremantle area. (A.C.N.B., 1158Z/25 to C. in C. China) .

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

25.7.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LADY SOMERS. (torpedoed 15 /7).

Publication in Press and by B.B.C. that LADY SOMERS was a British Warship has gravely compromised my Portugal friends who assisted me in getting crew transferred. Most Urgent that when ship's Company comes to a Neutral Port, nothing is published.
(N.C.S.O., Lisbon, 1812/25 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

1345A/24. VIMY reports good contact with probable U-Boat in 036° 56' N., 001° 56' E., at 1345A/24.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0302B/25, to S.O. Force H., F.O. 18 C.S., Capt. D.8).

2124/24. D/F bearing at 2124/24 indicates U-boat was within 40 miles position 033° 00' N.,012° 30' W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0403B/25 to S.& A. N.A. Stn).

0817 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U-Boat 27 U at 0817 G.M.T.
(D.DI.C., 1046B/25 to F.O.C.N.A.

O.G.69. O.G.69 is being reported by A/C. D/F bearings indicate U/Bs are in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C., 1251B/25 to JASMINE, SUNFLOWER.)
D. D/F placed U/Boats within 25 miles of
0953 G.M.T. 49° N., 19° W.
1010 G.M.T. 53½° N., 22° W.
1008 G.M.T. 50½° N., 22½° W.
1009 G.M.T. 53½° N., 16° W.
1012 G.M.T. 48° N., 20½° W.
(D.D.I.C., 1311B/25 to S. & A. Area B etc).

Estimated U/B dispositions. D/F bearings during forenoon indicate activity of several U/Bs. in area S.W. of Ireland probably in relation to convoy O.G.69 and S.L. 80. Other estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1504B/25).

1353 G.M.T.
1354 G.M.T. By D/F at 1353/25 G.M.T. and 1354/25 G.M.T. positions of U/Boats were within 25 miles of 53° N., 19° W., and 48° 30' N., 18° W. respectively.
(D.D.I.C., 1701B/25 to Area B., etc).

21/7 - 23/7. U.Boat reported in Mjofi Fiord 065° 12' N., 013° 35' W., operating from 0900/21 until 0900/23. Reliability A.2. (C.S.I. 1908B/25 to Admty).

1435 G.M.T. Submarine sound contact reported by TASK group 1.2 at 1435 G.M.T./25 44-45 N., 43-35 W. This is being passed to C.N.S. Ottawa.
(A.L.U.S.N.A., 2135/25 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Brown Ridge Patrol.	One unit of M.G.B's. were on Brown Ridge Patrol last night.
TIGRIS	Sailed today for duty referred to in F.O.S. 1143B/25.
Operation E.F.V.2.	Units under C.S.1. sailed at 2220Z/26.
SCHARNHORST	Photographic R/C of Brest at 0815B today showed that SCHARNHORST had returned to her position alongside the T.B. Station and that GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN are still there.
Operation "Gideon".	Operation "Gideon" by MENDIP, CATTISTOCK, and QUORN and the 3rd M.G.B. Flotilla which was ordered at 0045 to be carried out was abandoned at 0630 owing to unfavourable conditions for flying. Orders were given for the forces to be dispersed.
ADVENTURE	ADVENTURE, with ANTHONY in company for 24 hours, sailed at 1745B today; owing to delay she is not now expected to reach her R/V till 1330 G.M.T./31.
VERITY	VERITY was holed below the water line at 0600B/26 in 51° 30' N. 13° 56' W. in collision with BROKE. The latter sustained slight damage.

Enemy Air Activity.

Newarp Light has been damaged by Enemy M.G. fire.

The A/P Trawler TARANA was machine-gunned by an A/C off Portland Bill at 2312/15, but returned the fire and suffered no damage.

/At 2312/25.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

At 2312/25 three M.G.B's. proceeding on patrol east of Gap E were bombed near Aldeburgh Light Buoy by one A/C and M.G.B. 63 was damaged but returned to Harwich under her own power. There were no casualties.

Mining.

One Red Mine was detonated by L.L. Trawler off Harwich, and one off Inchkeith in the Firth of Forth.

Operation N.L.9. — Two motor launches laid mines last night between Calais and Gris Nez.

Mediterranean.

Attack on Malta by Light Naval forces. — The Grand harbour was heavily attacked at 0500 today by enemy light Naval forces including "2 men submarines" with fighter cover. The attack was repulsed by the shore defences and aircraft with heavy loss to the enemy. The harbour was not penetrated. The only damage reported is to the head of St. Elmo viaduct by torpedo. A number of prisoners were captured.

Western Desert. — 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Syria. H.M. Govt. have received an allegation that General Dentz had broken the convention and that British officer prisoners were evacuated by air before the convention and placed in Axis hands.

Alexandria. There was an air raid on Alexandria in the early hours of today, about 10 aircraft, dropping bombs and mines. The R.A.F. base was damaged but no Naval damage is reported.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack on O.S.1. Convoy O.S.1 was attacked early this morning about 70 miles N.W. of Bloody Foreland and S.S. ATLANTIC CITY and S.S. BOTWEY are reported to have been torpedoed.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Trawler "X"

Your 1646/19. Trawler X is to be regarded as captured Enemy Warship and therefore neither prize proceedings nor requisitioning necessary. Vessel allocated to Small Vessels Pool. All traces of original name should be removed and precautions taken to obscure previous history. Naval fitting should be removed. (Head of M., 1951B/26 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

MAID HONOUR.

It has been decided to send yacht MAID HONOUR to Freetown to operate under the orders of C. in C. S.A. Request you will give all facilities issue route instructions and recognition signals and sail MAID HONOUR when ready.
(D.N.I., 2007B/26 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Co-operation with Russia

Party to Archangel.

Catalina W8418 of 210 Squadron with seven crew to leave Oban for Archangel A.M./28 conveying following passengers and freight. Admiral Bevan, Petty Officer Pryke, Telegraphist Magee, Mr. Morris (Interpreter) Mr. Maillou, and two hundred pounds freight.
(H.Q.C.C., 1235/26).

Black Sea Fleet.

Following Intelligence obtained by Engineer Members of Mission who have (?visited) Sevastopol recently. Two (?KIROV) Cruisers are in commission in Black Sea - Voroshilov and Molotov. Morale and offensive spirit of Soviet Black Sea Fleet is very high. (Hd. of Naval Mission, Moscow, 1912C/26)

Request for Engines.

Understand Kharkanov is asking for supply 500 engines for M.T.B.'s and S/M hunting craft. I presume latter to be Fairmiles. Naval Authorities here have asked me to urge early delivery of 150 to 200 engines. (Admiral Miles 1937C/26).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Iceland Shipping position.

Position July 25th. Details. Congestion will be caused by expected American ships.
(D.S.T.O. Iceland, 1149B/26).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

EREBUS. Intend to sail EREBUS for Scapa escorted by 2 Destroyers at 0800/29. (C. in C. Nore, 1020B/26).

AKERSHUS. After ranging and compass adjustment Norwegian Salvage Vessel AKERSHUS is to be routed in convoy to Reykjavik. (D.D.S.F., 1152B/26 to F.O.I.C. London).

MARSDALE. Adjust speed to arrive outer end QZS 239 at 0520B /27. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1243B/26 to MARSDALE).

LE TRIOMPHANT. A.M. 2344B/23. Route from Londonderry to St. John's N.F. (C. in C. W.A., 1543B/26).

BERWICK. Request BERWICK to be sailed for Scapa on completion as a two shaft ship. (C. in C. H.F., 1707B/26 to C. in C. Rosyth).

ADVENTURE. 1745B sailed ADVENTURE. ANTHONY in company for 24 hours. (F.O.C. 1st C.S., 1801/26).
Cancel A.M. 2315B/23. ADVENTURE has been delayed 2. E.T.A. at R/V 1330 G.M.T. 31st July. (D.O.D. H., 1900B/26 to N.A. Moscow).

Operations.

Operation GIDEON. Carry out operation GIDEON. (V.A. Dover, 0045B/26).
Operation GIDEON abandoned. Destroyers and M.G.B.'s ordered to return to Portsmouth. (V.A. Dover, 0620B/26).
Operation GIDEON was abandoned at 0630/26 owing to unfavourable conditions for flying. Request instructions be given as to dispersion of vessels. (V.A. Dover, 0925B/26 to Admty).
Operation GIDEON. Forces are to be dispersed to their respective. Commands as soon as convenient. (A.C.N.S. H. 1205B/26 to V.A. Dover.)

Biscay S/M Patrol Zones. Cancel my 2019/18/3/1941.
(a) Following active patrol zones are established Bay of Biscay North. Between 047° 48' N., and a line joining 046° 30' N., 001° 45' W., and 046° N., 007° W., and to East of 007° W. Bay of Biscay S. Between Southern limit Bay of Biscay North and coast of Spain and to East by 007° West.
Bay of Biscay West. Limits between 045° and 044° N., between longitudes 007° and 009° W.
(b) It must be particularly noted that part of these zones is outside area in which ships may be attacked without warning.
(c) Spanish neutrality is to be scrupulously respected. (F.O.S. 1102B/26).

/GARLAND.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

GARLAND. After fuelling from oiler WAR SUDRA at Seidis Fjord take oiler OLIGARCH and trawler WASTWATER and SEALYHAM under your orders and proceed to position KK 077° 30' N., 011° 00' E. Remain within 7 miles of this position until further orders received. Force is not to approach nearer to land before H.M. Ships have been met.
(2) Oiler OLIGARCH is to be prepared to fuel H.M. Ships at sea. (C. in C. H.F. 1301B/26 to GARLAND).

Convoy W.S. 8[illegible]. V.C.N.S. 2003B/26. See operations volume. (Shipping).

Operation F.B. C. in C. H.F., 2002B/26. See Operations Volume. Force A consisting of NIGERIA (Flag), AURORA, TARTAR, and PUNJABI, will sail from Scapa A.M./27 and, after fuelling Seidis Fjord, will proceed to operate in Northern Waters in accordance my 2002B /26. Operation will be known as Operation F.B. (C, in C. H.F., 2231B/26).

British Air Operations.

Patrols. VOE A and VOE B in operation from 1000/26. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0946/26).
My 0946/26. Discontinued at 1700/26 owing to weather . (C. in C. Rosyth, 1752/26).
A/S patrol of exercise area being flown by 18 group aircraft from 2030/26 until 1530/27. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2034/26).

A/C off Seidis Fjord on 25/7. Your 1434B plane friendly Northrop. Planes have been ordered to keep clear of your vicinity. (A.C.I.C., 1421Z/26 to F.O.C. 1st C.S.)

Flying of Kites and Balloons by convoys. When an F.C. or C.A.M. Ship carrying a serviceable A/C is present with a convoy, it is proposed that the flying of kites and balloons should be prohibited west of 7° W., when conditions are suitable for flying off. No additional restrictions are considered necessary east of 7° W., or when weather conditions are unsuitable for flying, off.
2. It will be the responsibility of the F.C. ship or if no F.C. Ship is present of the CAM. ship detailed as controlling ship to inform the S.O. Escort and the Commodore whenever no serviceable aircraft is available or conditions are unsuitable for flying off. (C. in C. W.A., 1506B/26).

Escort. Your 1001B/26. NORTHROPS will provide escort for 8 hours relieved by CATALINA if weather here clears (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1812Z/26 to C.S.1.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations.

Newarp Light Float. Trinity House Superintendent reports Newarp Float Light damaged by enemy machine gun fire. Propose replacing immediately spare float is available. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1012B/26).

TARANA. (A/P Trawler) attacked. TARANA reports that at 2312/25 while on Patrol 10' West of Portland Bill an A/C flying west passed across Bows of Ship at height of about 100 feet and attacked with Machine guns. Plane believed to be a JU 52, not a seaplane. No casualties or damage to TARANA who returned fire. No illuminants were used by plane. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1615/26).

M.G.B.63 damaged. M.G.B.'s 59, 63, and 65 proceeding on anti E boat sweep eastward of Gap E last night 25th were bombed by a single aircraft near Aldeburgh Light Buoy at about 2312. M.G.B. 63 sustained damage to hull and underwater fittings. There were no casualties, and boat returned to Harwich under her own power. (C. in C. Nore, 2303B/26).

Mining.

SCOTT. Arrival SCOTT.(N.O.I.C. Loch Alsh, 1014B/26).

S.N. 21 C. Intend to lay deep mine field S.N. 21 C with PORT QUEBEC escorted by SCOTT A.M./30 between following positions. (R.A.M.1604B/26).

Harwich. Red mine detonated by "LL" trawlers at 1309 in 51° 44' N., 1° 10.5' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1608B/26).

Firth of Forth. Red mine detonated LL at 1842/26, 035° Inchkeith Lighthouse 4 cables. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2246/26).

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. SCHARNHORST. P.R.U. Brest at 0815B/26 shows SCHARNHORST has returned and is alongside T.B. Station. GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN in usual positions. (D.D.I.C., 1228/26).

/At 0825.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

Brest. SCHARNHORST. Contd.

At 0825 SCHARNHORST is back at her former berth at T/B station her bows westward with net boom in position and cruiser emitting smoke. Floating camouflage not replaced but some camouflage netting between vessel and quay. One destroyer at quay west of T/B station. 5 'M' class minesweepers and 4 M/Vs over 400 ft. in part of Rade de Brest photographed but impossible to identify large tanker last seen at T/B station. GNEISENAU and HIPPER class cruiser at usual position S. (P.R.U. St. Eval, 1230/26) (F.O.S. 1429B/26).

German Main Units.

Positions. (D.D.I.C., 1745B/26.) (N.A. Stockholm, 1934/26).

Casualties and Defects

M.G.B.42.

Your 1740/25. Arrived Portland with engine defects (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1140B/26).

KOS. 9.

Arrived with following defects having left convoy O.S.(C) 1 at 1630B/25. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 1225B/26).

BRIGAND.

Have grounded on rocks in fog.
(BRIGAND, 1445B/26).
Fog lifted position aground is Clettack Skerry.
(BRIGAND 1630B/26).
Am afloat and proceeding to Scapa Flow.
(BRIGAND, 1712B/26).
Scapa arrival. BRIGAND. (A.C.O.S., 1908B/26).

CAPE WARWICK.

My 1728B/25 CAPE WARWICK unable to sail owing to engine defects. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1500B/26).

BROKE VERITY collision.

BROKE and VERITY in collision at 0600B/26 in 051° 30' N., 013° 56' W. BROKE slight damage to bow. VERITY holed below waterline. Dock necessary. Proceeding Londonderry for fuel. My course and speed 035° 11.5 knots. Request instructions. (VERITY, 1600B/26).
Proceed to Belfast to dock. Fuel at Londonderryif necessary. (C. in C. W.A., 2134B/26 to VERITY).

CAPE CORSO. SEA GIANT.

Rescue Tug SEA GIANT sailed 1840 to assist S.S. CAPE CORSO who has engine defects 2½ miles north of 20 S Buoy. SEA GIANT will return to Tyne with CAPE CORSO. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1855/26).
My 1946/26. CAPE CORSO entered harbour. Rescue tug SEA GIANT broken down. Probable duration effect repairs 48 hours. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2313/26).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 26.7.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

W.N. Convoys. As from W.N.61 W.N. Convoys will start from Oban and not from Clyde. (D.T.D., 0135B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

F.N. & F.S. Escorts. My 1657B/25 amend as follows for LADY PHILOMENA read BASSETT. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0843B/26 to C. in C. Nore).

C.A.M. Ships, position. Request you will inform Commodores concerned that when a Fighter Catapult ship is in the same Convoy as a C.A.M. Ship, (a) these ships should be stationed within V/S touch of each other, and (b) C.O. of the Fighter Catapult Ship should be authorized to vary the position of the C.A.M. Ship subject to concurrence of Commodore. (C. in C. W.A., 1104B/26 to N.C.S.O.'s W. App.)

W.S.10 Intend sailing Bristol Channel Section of W.S. 10 from Barry Roads at 0500/30 to Greenock, E.T.A. 1500/31. N.O.I.C. Cardiff will issue route instructions and convoy orders for passage from Bristol Channel to Clyde only. (N.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1132B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

C.T.1. / D.S.9. / S.O.9. Escort arrangements. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1402B/26 to C. in C. W.A., etc). See Lion Copy.

F.C.S. / C.A.M.S. Masters to be informed of details of catapulting aircraft from F.C.S. and C.A.M.S. (C. in C. W.A., 1544B/26, W.A. General Message) See Lion Copy.

O.S., O.G., H.G. and S.L. Convoys. Re interdependence, and principles for escorts. (C. in C. W.A., 1651B/26 to Admty). See Lion and Tiger Copies.

E.C. and W.N. Commodores. A.M. 0135B/26. Intended that in future Commodores for both E.C. and W.N. convoys should work from Methil. Commodores will take the next W.N. convoy to Methil after arriving at Oban with the E.C. convoy. 4 Commodores and Staffs are to be transferred from Clyde to Methil. (D.T.D., 1926B/26 to N.C.S.O.'s Methil, Clyde, etc).

W.S.8c. V.C.N.S. 2003B/26 See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders. My 1911B/22. LITIOPA and E.G. KULUKUNDIS now reported arrived. (D.D.I.C. 1445B/26 to C. in C's etc.)

North Atlantic.

Operation "Substance" MANCHESTER, WISHART, VIMY, VIDETTE arrived. (F.O.C.N.A. 0230B/26 to Admty.) See also -Mediterranean for other signals re Operation "Substance".
Arrivals 0800, ENCOUNTER, TALABOT, BRECONSHIRE, 1040, BEVERLEY, BROWN RANGER. (F.O.C.N.A. 1050B/26 to Admty. etc.)

Admty. 0216B/26 (see Med.) Request you will write appropriate letters from 1st Lord and 1st S.L. to Captains of ships of M.G.1 arriving at Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1400B/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

FEARLESS survivors. E.T.A. 1130A. Request accommodation for 8 officers and 119 ratings, and ambulances and hospital accommodation for 12 surgical cases, all from FEARLESS. (FORESTER, 0510B/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Convoy. Passing 25/7 French, Eastward, OUERGHA, ST. JULIENNE, PORT ST. LOUIS. All full. (F.O.C.N.A. 1015/26 to Admty. for M.E.W.) Escorted by light cruiser MILAN (D.O.R. 27/7.)

TALISMAN. THUNDERBOLT. Your 1257B/25 (No. of R.A.F. personnel that can be taken) TALISMAN, 1 Officer, 8 other ranks. THUNDERBOLT, 1 Officer, 10 other ranks. S/M already carrying 3 Officers 19 ratings spare crew. (F.O.C.N.A. 1134B/26 to Admty.)

/Ships carrying ....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

Ships Carrying Pyrites. — Your 2019B/14. Is it intended that a telegram from a reporting officer reporting departure of a ship with Pyrites for North Spanish Port should be reporting for her interception? In case of S.S. CASTILLO GIBRALFARO, sailed from Huelva 25/7 with Pyrites for Pasajes, there was no indication on Huelva telegram that she was suspected and in any case telegram was not received in time for action. Intend therefore to instruct Patrols to send in such vessels pending the receipt of information from R.O. of Port of Departure, N.A. Madrid, or Admiralty. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 1142B/26 to Admty.) Reply, 2006/27.

WISHART. — Departure WISHART to R/V with LAURELWOOD daylight/27 thence Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1502B/26 to Admty.)

Oran. — A Maryland leaves 1430 G.M.T. for R/C of Oran. (200 Group, 1526B/26 to S.O. Force H.)

Movements. — Orders for RENOWN, PASTEUR, EDINBURGH, ARETHUSA, MANXMAN, BRECONSHIRE, AMERIKA. Destroyers, Corvettes etc. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1634B/26 to F.O.C.N.A.) See Lion Copy.

LE TRAIT. — My 1817/22 LE TRAIT has left Setubal for Viana Castillo to load pit props. (N.A. Lisbon, 1647/26 to Admty.)

Fuelling Fayal. — Following H.M. Ships may call about 3/8 at Fayal:- (a) CONSBRO, PANORAMA, (b) LORINDA, (c) BALTA. Coal requirements. (D.O.D.(F) 1847B/26 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada) is Cancelled, see 1216/27.

French Prisoners — Your 1745/18. Inform French N.A. that the French Admiralty contention that crews of INDO CHINOIS, ALBI and ESPERANCE are interned under lamentable conditions is not understood. (Details No complaint has ever reached H.M.G. from men of any of these ships. You should therefore press for release of the correspondence of the PARRACOMBE crew and strongly support efforts for their repatriation which are being made through American authorities. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1955B/26 to N.A. Madrid.)

/WESTPOINT .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

WESTPOINT. F.O.C.N.A's 1210B/25. U.S. ship WESTPOINT left Lisbon 1800A/26 for New York routed through 40° 10' N. 30° 00' W., speed 21 knots. Ship fully illuminated at night. (D.D.I.C. 2318B/26 to CLYDE, F.O.C.N.A.1555B/26 to N.A. Stn. and W.P. Trawlers.)

South Atlantic.

CARNARVON CASTLE, ALCANTARA, BROOMDALE. Your 2046/19. Anticipated fuel requirements in tons, (at Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro.) (R.A.S.A.D. 0002Z/26 to Admty.)

ERLANGEN. (German) My 2251Z/25. Regret ERLANGEN has sunk. (R.A.S.A.D. 0731Z/26 to Admty.)

Air H.Q. Authority given for establishment of an air headquarters in West Africa to administer and control all R.A.F. units in Gambia, Sierra Leone and Gold Coast, with exception that all questions relating to supply of aircraft from Takoradi to Egypt are to remain Middle East responsibility. A.H.Q. will be located in Freetown and will be directly responsible to Air Ministry. (Air Min. 0750/26 to O.C.95 Sqdn.) (Head of M.2206B/26 to C. in C.S.A.)

D'ENTRECASTEAUX. (French) On voyage from Tamatave to Dakar passed through following positions before interception. Two masters state that Vichy ships proceeding round Cape are not given extract of routeing instructions. Routes to be followed are approximate and left to Master's discretion. (S.C.I Capetown, 0940B/26 to Admty. etc.)

/ERIDAN .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ERIDAN, (French) and German Raider.	Censorship of French Passengers' mails reveals that ERIDAN was stopped and allowed to proceed by a German Merchant ship raider on 5/4 within 300 miles of 36° S. 37° 30' E. On 5/4 D/F Bearings fixed a German Surface Unit near 35° S. 040° E. and 036° S. 40° E. respectively. C. in C. E.I. 0022/5/4 and S.N.O. Simonstown's 1640/5/4 refer. (Capetown 1130B/26 to Admty.)
GLENBANK.	Overdue shipping. Cancel my 1031/25. GLENBANK arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1140B/26 to Admty. etc.)
Dispositions.	Weekly State. 26/7. (C. in C.S.A. 1255N/26) See Lion Copy.
HIGHLANDER.	Admty. 1327/25. HIGHLANDER sails from Freetown 1800/27. E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800B/1/8 passing 100 miles W. of Dakar thence East of Canary Is. (C. in C.S.A. 1905N/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)
S.L.Convoys.	Sailing of slow ships. (C. in C.S.A. 1931N/26 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
Intercepted French Ships.	Admty. 0130/4. (a) (?Presume) that Admty.1407 10/1/41 3. (b) is cancelled, also that importance of avoiding having to engage French Warships emphasized in Admty.2005/21/1 does not now obtain. B Instructions at (e) of Admty. 0130/4 infer. (i) that if French Force that intervenes is not a decisively superior force, the escorting Warship may dispute the intervention by contest. (ii) that if French Force is a decisively superior force action is (?to be) (?taken to) sink the merchant ship, presumably by gunfire or by torpedo, having first ordered the Merchant ship to abandon ship and wait until it is complete, and (?assure) papers are safe, vide last paragraph of signal quoted. This appears unlikely of achievement without action ensuing. (?Consider) as regards B.(ii) that action to sink should be taken by scuttling. Intend to issue instructions accordingly but request confirmation of A and B (i). (C. in C.S.A. 1945N/26 to Admty.)

/Troop .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Troop Convoy. My 1225/29/6. Desired to form another troop convoy from Halifax to U.K. (proposed date) Request report (a) which troopships homeward bound from South Africa could be ordered to Halifax for inclusion. (b) Troop capacity of these ships. (D. of S.T. 2002B/26 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

R.D.F. Equipment. Use in Near and Middle East. Chiefs of Staff No.151. (1st S.L. 0034B/26 to C. in C. Med., C. in C.E.I.) See Lion Copy.

Enemy Unit. Position of enemy 020° ELMO 48 miles, course 018° speed 22 knots. (No.48 (GR) Sqdn. via Malta W/T 0020/26 to No. 612 Sqdn.)
Enemy 5 closing Passero from S.W. (48 (GR) Sqdn. 0030/26 to 612 Sqdn.)

Operation "Substance" Thanks from 1st Lord and 1st Sea Lord to Captains of merchant vessels now at Malta ex-"Substance", for their invaluable work in bringing vital supplies to Malta. (1st S.L. 0216B/26 to V.A. Malta.)
Your 0022B/25. Summary of report M.G.1,Group 2 :-
2100/23. M.G.1 split into groups. 2200 to 2300 Off Pantellaria. A/C dropped flares, but no attack developed.
0230 to 0330/24. Passed through Sicilian Channel in territorial waters of Tunis.
0800/24 sighted by shadowing A/C.
1225, in Galita Island Channel. Attacked by 1 T/B A/C. Torpedoes missed.
1239, attacked by 3 T/B A/C. All torpedoes avoided. Poor attack.
1249, attacked by 4 high level bombers. About 30 bombs dropped, all missed. These attacks were probably to synchronize, but failed.
1440,parted company with Group 2 to join Group 1.
1540, attacked by (?3) high level bombers. 8 bombs dropped, all missed.
2140, joined M.G.1 Group 1. (ENCOUNTER, 1030A/26 to Admty.)

/Admty. .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Substance" contd.

Admty. appreciation of the way in which "Substance" was planned and carried through to such a successful conclusion. (1st S.L. 1510B/26 to C. in C. Med. S.O. Force H. etc.)
Request you convey to officers and men of all units concerned, both Navy and R.A.F., admiration of Admiralty for skill, courage and fine offensive spirit which have enabled this most valuable Convoy to make so successful a passage. (1st S.L. 1515B/26 to F.O. Force H., C.S.18, V.A. Malta.)
Thanks for assistance rendered in execution of "Substance" and in particular for prompt action taken to deal with emergencies as they arose. Grateful if you would convey my appreciation to A.O.C. Med. and 200 Group R.A.F. for their effective co-operation which contributed so much to the success of operation. (S.O. Force H., 2253A/26 to N.O.I.C. Malta, F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation "Guillotine".

Following ships detailed. Serial 7. NEPTUNE, ABDIEL, KIMBERLEY; 8, FLAMINGO; 9, HYACINTH; 10, PARRAMATTA; 11, FLAMINGO; 12, PARRAMATTA; 13, PEONY. Ships are to be sailed accordingly. (C. in C. Med., 09023/26 to S. and A. concerned in "Guillotine".)

Benghazi bombed.

Night 24/25 July. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting fires at base of Cathedral Mole. Ships west of Cathedral Mole claimed hit. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1048/26.)

Attack on Malta by E-Boats, 0500/26.

Grand harbour heavily attacked by E-boats and one-man torpedo boats at 0500 today. (?All) were not penetrated. Head of Elmo Viaduct damaged by torpedo. About 10 E-boats and one-man torpedo boats sunk by shore batteries and R.A.F. fighters. 20 living prisoners captured and various bodies. (V.A. Malta, 1105B/26 to C. in C. Med., Admty., F.O.C.N.A. amended 1205B/26) See also 1700/26.

Mine Danger to S/M's Alexandria.

My 0955C/20. When following astern of sweepers in Searched Channel submarines are not to close nearer than 1000 yards as mines are liable to explode a considerable distance astern. (Capt. S.1. 1125C/26 to 1st S.F. Negative U. Class.)

/LEANDER .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

LEANDER.	My 1817/25. Request you sail LEANDER p.m./27 to arrive Port Said a.m./28 to embark Catapult and transit Canal. (C. in C. Med. 12060/26 to C.S. 7.) Following programme intended for LEANDER. (C. in C. Med., 12080/26 to Admty.)
Alexandria Raid.	C.A.F.O. 587/40 (A) Alexandria air raid 0340 to 0500/26. Weather clear, no moon, few clouds. (B) About 10 A/C usual medium level and shallow dive bombing using flares and minelaying. (C) H.E. bombs and mines in town and Mex. area. Some parachute mines between ?Arabs and Agami. (E) Struck R.A.F. base, damaged. No casualties. (R.A. Alexandria, 12410/26 to Admty.)
Syria, Cyprus, Libya.	Priority. (1st S.L. 1536B/26 to C. in C. Med.) See Mediterranean Volume.
LATONA, JAGUAR collision.	Regret to report while berthing in Famagusta LATONA came in collision with JAGUAR. Starboard mine door, upper deck and side plating distorted over area approx. 10 feet square. Mines cannot be laid from starboard rail. (LATONA, 14210/26 to R.A. (D) Med.)
GIORGIOS. AVEROFF. (Greek)	Your 1154/24. N.A. informs us that Adm. Sakellariou has suggested that AVEROFF should now be used for defence of Convoys or Anti-Raider operations in Red Sea and Indian Ocean. Speed reported as 12 knots regular, with a maximum of 16 knots. C. in C. Med. requested to inform C. in C.E.I. if he concurs that she is capable of being so employed. If so Admiralty approve and suggest the earlier she gets to sea the better. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1547B/26 to C. in C. Med., C. in C.E.I.)
QUEEN ELIZABETH, AQUITANIA.	Excess flare of bow of QUEEN ELIZABETH precludes berthing of ship alongside for camel cargo and equipment in Nos. 1 and 2 holds. Intend AQUITANIA to discharge Suez 29 and 30/7 followed by QUEEN ELIZABETH 31/7 to 3/8 inclusive. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 16570/26 to Admty. etc.)

/Malta .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Air Raids and E/B Attack.	C.S.R. Malta to 1600 hrs. 26/7. Night 25/26. 7 raids. Few bombs on land, no casualties, no damage. Enemy light Naval Forces attempted to attack Grand Harbour early morning but unable to break through defences and at 0445 hrs. 5 M.T.B's reported off Grand Harbour. These were engaged by harbour defences with twin 6 pounders at ranges between 500 to 3,000 yards. 3 Bofors engaged 1 gun claiming 6 hits. First Cheshires engaged with one M.M.G. and observed hits on M.T.B. which blew up. Total of 5 M.T.B's sunk. At same time 8 two-men submarines attempted to break through the boom defence. One blew up on reaching the breakwater remaining 7 were either sunk or blew up before reaching objective. Hurricanes followed up engaging number of "E" boats sinking four and damaging others. Enemy fighter cover was attacked three machines shot down into sea. One Hurricane shot down, but Pilot rescued uninjured. About 20 enemy picked up but losses not final. Considerable rescuing activities in progress. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1700/26.)
ALBA JULIA. CAPO ARMA. (Italian) SZEGED. (Hungarian)	My 1830/23 (N.T. in W.R.) Dispute evidently settled. Indications are ALBA JULIA ready to sail this week-end, CAPO ARMA approx. 29/7. SZEGED waiting loaded. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 18060/26 to S.O.I. Med. S.I.)
Syria. British prisoners.	H.M.G. have received :- (a) An allegation that Gen. Dentz has already broken convention by exacting oath from his Officers and men that they will not join the Allies, and (b) information that 56 British Officer prisoners were evacuated by air before convention and placed in Axis hands in Greece and in Scarpanto. Minister of State has been urged to consider strong measures. These may include suspension of all repatriation of Vichy forces. Presumably Minister of State is aware of arrangements made in your 1801/23. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1907B/26 to C. in C. Med.)
DUQUESNE.	Free French Naval Authorities in West Africa report interception of cypher messages to Dakar thought to emanate from warship DUQUESNE. Admiralty confirm interception of one such message. Request your comments. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2013B/26 to C. in C. Med.)

/FORMIDABLE .....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

FORMIDABLE. C. in C. Med. 2103/17. Programme delayed 24 hours. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 2035/26 to Admty. etc.)

PEONY. Your 2018/26. (N.T. in W.D.) Air search unsuccessful. Move clear of area for dawn period and resume search in daylight. Further instructions at noon/27. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 2100C/26 to PEONY.)

Enemy Shipping, Benghazi. Reported that single ships are sailing every (?few days) direct from Italian port to Benghazi. (Capt. S.1. 2213C/26 to REGENT.)

CACHALOT. Steer 170° from end of searched channel. Orders follow. (S.O.(S) Malta, 2215B/26 to CACHALOT.)

Situation Report 98. (2) Western Desert. On 25/7 heavy dust storms, but enemy guns E. and S.W. of Tobruk shelled the harbour. No material damage.
(3) Operation "Guillotine". LEANDER has returned to Alexandria.
(5) Malta. Ten E-boats or one-man torpedo boats sunk in abortive attack on Grand Harbour at 0500/26. See V.A. Malta 1105/26. (C. in C. Med. 2330/26 to Admty.)

CANADA. My 1958/24. French hospital ship CANADA is E.T.L. Beirut for Toulon p.m./27 following same route as on outward passage. If encountered she is to be allowed to proceed. Haifa pass to H.Q. Palestine and Trans-Jordan. (C. in C. Med. 2358C/26 to Med. Fleet.)

East Indies.

GEORGIOS G. Cancel my 1112/24, ship arrived. (S.O.I. Colombo 0116Z/26 to Admty.)

/ILEX .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

ILEX. S.N.O. Red Sea reports that ILEX is not in a fit state to reach Mombasa while S.W. monsoon continues. ILEX is being held at Aden until weather moderates pending further decision in view of your 1727/17/7. (C. in C.E.I. 1354Z/26 to Admty.)

China.

Russian Ships. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1851Z/24. On receipt of Admty. 2311B/16. I authorise Russian ships proceeding North of Hong Kong. (C. in C. China, 0213Z/26 to Admty.)

Refusal of Bunkers. My 0254Z/25. Nothing known at Manila of any restriction. (C. in C. China, 0304Z/26 to Admty.)

ERITREA. (Italian) Kobe. Returned harbour 20/7 repairs apparently completed, new mast, and seems to have slightly more armament amidships. (C.S. Singapore, 0350Z/26 to Admty. etc.)

Far East Command. Re staffs. (C. in C. Far East, 1633/26 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

Convoys. Requirements for Colombo to Singapore, Australia to Singapore. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1640B/26 to C. in C. China etc.) See Lion Copy.

Japanese S/M's off Hong Kong. N.A. Tokyo 1552/24. (N.T. in W.R.)
A. S.S. EMPIRE STARLIGHT carried out gun trials a.m./18. Japanese S/M's were observed in vicinity but no rounds fired anywhere near them.
B. No change in patrols except increase due to increased Japanese forces. Same factor responsible for patrols being constant in proximity to each other.

/As regards .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Japanese S/M's off Hong Kong contd.

As regards Japanese S/M patrols hitherto these have only been sighted on surface but Master of American S.S. CAPE FLATTERY whom I consider absolutely reliable informs me that at 0630/25 when six miles south of Waglan a S/M surfaced one cable on beam. The use of S/M's close to Hong Kong appears to be a deliberate attempt to provoke an incident they profess so anxious to avoid and I have little doubt such incident will occur if they continue to do so. Suggest B.N.A. Tokyo in his reply lays stress on the dangerous possibility. (C.-in-C. ~~Malaya~~ Hong Kong 0437Z/26 to C. in C. China.)

America and West Indies.

N.F. Escort Force.

Organization, cancelling his 0157Z/14. (Capt. (D) N.F. 0106Z/26 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

Japanese M/V's.

Following from C.C.P.S. Esquimalt (begins) :- U.S. Naval Authorities Seattle report Japanese M/V's now en route to Pacific Coast off Northern America have instructions to observe radio silences. Gordon Head reports vessels used 500 kc/s 24/7 but shifted to commercial H/F frequencies early a.m./25 (Ends) Singapore informed. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0134Z/26 to Admty.)

German Raider, Easter Island.

Following from Los Angeles (begins) A Senior U.S. Naval Intelligence Officer states Japanese HEIYO MARU has on board spare engine parts for disabled German raider now lying up in a cove at Easter Island. Information unconfirmed obtained by one of his men from Chief Engineer of HEIYO MARU. (Ends) (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0219Z/26 to Admty.)

/PRINCE ROBERT .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

PRINCE ROBERT.	N.S.H.Q. 0219Z/26. Could PRINCE ROBERT carry out investigation of Easter Island after parting company with DOMINION MONARCH, anticipate no difficulty in arranging fuel at Valparaiso if necessary. If this upsets escort programme suggest for consideration that PRINCE HENRY might be employed as temporary relief. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1111Q/26 to N.Z.N.B. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.) C. in C. A.W.I. 1111Q/26. Request orders route and speed of advance given to PRINCE ROBERT. Do not consider PRINCE HENRY can be released from coast of British Columbia. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2333Z/26 to N.Z.N.B.)
BULOLO.	Will be ready to sail from Norfolk (date). Ship desires to carry out day, night and A/A practices at Bermuda. Last battle practice was in November 1940. Request sailing instructions. (B.A.R.M. Washington, 1218R/26 to Admty.)
Foreign Fishing Craft, Newfoundland.	Your 1706B/11. Grand Bank area searched 3 days by SKEENA and 3 days by RAMSEY, no foreign ships sighted. (C.C.N.F. 1317Z/26 to Admty.)
HAMILTON. ST. CROIX.	Your 0308Z/25 approved. On completion of working up programme HAMILTON is to relieve SAINT CROIX in Halifax local defence force. SAINT CROIX is to join Newfoundland escort force on 14/8. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1353Z/26 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)
RICHMOND CASTLE, BANGALORE collision.	RICHMOND CASTLE (?arrived with) survivors BANGALORE on board. BANGALORE reports collision occurred 0140 zone 3/20, position 001° 03' N. 041° 54' W. Ship abandoned until daylight/20. Attempt made by RICHMOND CASTLE to tow BANGALORE but due to unsteady speed and BANGALORE being down by the head attempt abandoned and ship stood by until a.m./21. As no reply received to signals and no word of assistance, BANGALORE sunk by 6 rounds gunfire at 0845 zone 4, position 000° 59' N. 043° W. to prevent becoming danger to Navigation. After sinking 2 unprimed mines surfaced and were left floating. Approx. 500 on board. C.B's lost in wreckage and went down with ship, 4 men lost. (N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 1709Q/26 to Admty.)

/U.S. Ships .....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

U.S. Ships Routes. When U.S.A. ships request a route from a British C.S.A. in (?Ottawa) area such route is sent to you in route signal. If the route has been given by U.S. authority and passed to the British organization the words "U.S.A. route" will be mentioned. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1712Z/26 to Admty. etc.)

A.M.C's. Forecast of A.M.C's arriving Iceland LACONIA, MALOJA, WORCESTERSHIRE, CALIFORNIA. (B.S.S. 1718P/26 to Admty.)

T.C.12 B. My 0128/19. Position in regard to the proposed T.C.12 B is as follows. (D.S.T. 2001B/26 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

General.

Value of R.D.F.

FOLKESTONE recently detected a U-boat on the surface by R.D.F. at a range of 2 1/4 miles. Visibility was 600 yards and R.D.F. contact was held until U-boat was sighted about 12 minutes later.
(C. in C. W.A., 1639B/26, W.A. General Message.)

Ships Attacked.

Convoy attacked by U-Boat 055° 42' N., 009° 58' W., at 0330B.
(WALKER, 0339B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 0339B ATLANTIC CITY Torpedoed, crew picked up. Ship still afloat, BATH standing by.
(WALKER, 0517B/26.)
Request you sail ZWARTE ZEE with despatch to assistance of ATLANTIC CITY torpedoed (position) Destroyer BATH is standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0629B/26, to N.O.I.C. Londonderry, C. in C. W.A., 0638B/26 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
My 0517B/26. Ship floating well in position 055° 38' N., 009° 26' W. BATH and WALKER attacking contact in the vicinity.
(WALKER, 0715B/26, to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C., Greenock, 0849B/26 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
WALKER reports position of ATLANTIC CITY at 0715B/26 55° 38' N., 009° 26' W. Floating well.
(C. in C. W.A., 0949B/26, to HARRIER SPEEDY.)
Crew ATLANTIC CITY re-embarked and ship proceeding towards North Channel at slow speed.
(WALKER, 1218B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
Proceed forthwith to stand by ATLANTIC CITY in approx. 55° 30' N., 008° 30' W., at 1500B proceeding North Channel under own steam and escort her to Mersey.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1459B/26 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
Situation becoming serious in ATLANTIC CITY. Am removing part of crew and intend to make for Lough Swilly if possible.
(SPEEDY, 2300B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

PANDIAS (torpedoed 13/6.)

Ref. N.C.S.I. 69 (A) Greek PANDIAS
(B) 13/6 0948 [illegible] 007 49N, 023 28 W.
(C and D) [illegible] thrown overboard. (E) Yes 2900 [illegible] tons
(G) Master. Ship was sunk by one torpedo from small S/M under 500 tons which later surfaced and questioned survivors. S/M had four faces device on conning tower. Seven [illegible]
(N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1837/26 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0339B. U-Boat in 055° 42' N., 009° 58' W., at 0339B/26.
(C. in C. W.A., 0618B/26, to W.A. Command.)

1200. F.F. am investigating oil patch in 55.15N., 9.30 W.
(A/C No.6, 15 Group 1200/26 to No.15 (R) Group H.Q.)
F. Oil not moving resuming original search.
(A/C No.6. 15th Group. 1247/26 to 15 (R) Group H.Q.)

1249B. Convoy O.G.69 is being shadowed by A/C. U-Boats are in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1249B/26 to SUNFLOWER JASMIN PIMPERNEL.)

1300B. Following received by B.T.N.1 110 special wireless section (begins) S/M of unknown nationality in our territorial waters at a point 1½ miles N., of Magharee Island, Tralee Bay. T.O.O. 1300B/26. (Ends.)
(F.O. I.C. Belfast, 1340B/26, to C. in C. W.A.)
Estimnted U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1447B/26.)

1714 G.M.T. German U Boat bearing 320/3 from Gibraltar made enemy sighting report at 1714 G.M.T. Probably O G 69.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1946B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

2129B. My 2/1949B/26. Convoy OG 69 is still being shadowed. Several U/Boats in the vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2129B/26 to SUNFLOWER ALISMA KINGCUP JASMINE.

1743Z. At 1743Z Italian U-Boat within 120 miles of 037° N., 011° W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2153B/26 to N.A. Stn.)
Your signal at 1544Z to A/C and GURKHA'S at 1615Z to A/C, no submarine sighted. STEGEHOLM sighted in position (?T) V 352 N 05 58 at 1645Z.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 2209Z/26, to ?MALAYA.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By WALKER.

Have carried out doubtful attack on Firm Contact. No visible result. Two depth charges only remain. BATH in company. My position, 055° 36' N., 009° 35' W.
(WALKER, 0801B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
Am in firm contact. No charges left. Position 055° 35' N., 009° 36' W.
(WALKER, 0927B/26.)
Proceed with despatch to join WALKER hunting U-Boat in position 55 degs. 35' N., 09 degs., 36'W., at 0927B/26. Have you survivors from F/W from BEGONIA on board?
(C. in C. W.A., 1025B/26, to BEVERLEY.)
Proceed with despatch to join WALKER hunting U/B in 55° 35' N., 09° 36' W. If ZWARTE ZEE cannot keep up, leave her to follow.
(C. in C. W.A., 1030B/26, to HARRIER, SPEEDY.
Contact now lost. Intend to remain in vicinity with BATH until arrival of tugs and then proceed with BATH to Lough Foyle for fuel and depth charges. Request 70 D.C. may be available Lough Foyle on arrival.
(WALKER, 1105B/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1030B/26 and WALKER's 1105B/26. Am covering ATLANTIC CITY, hunt abandoned by WALKER 240° 20 miles from present position at 0900, request instructions.
(SPEEDY, 1800B/26 to C. in C.W.A.)
Report if BEVERLEY joined before you abandoned hunt.
(C. in C. W.A., 2144B/26 to WALKER.)

By KINGCUP.

Have attacked possible contact in 046° 00' N., 018° 18' W. DIANELLA in company. After these attacks contact lost, area searched and contact not regained. Am proceeding to R/V H.G.68.
(KINGCUP, 2340B/26, to C. in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B. attack on destroyers.

An enemy destroyer passed Gris Nez Eastwards at 1345 today. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla escorted and covered by fighters attacked with torpedoes at 1440 off Calais, but it is thought that the enemy vessel was unhit.

Attack by TUNA.

TUNA reports that at 0110B/19 in the Bay of Biscay in 45° 21' N., 2° 33' W. she attacked a very large ship screened by 4 destroyers, steering 90° at 14 knots, and obtained 2 hits.

SCHARNHORST.

R/C of Brest at 2000 showed that SCHARNHORST had moved into dry dock.

Operation F.B.

Force A NIGERIA, AURORA, TARTAR, and PUNJABI sailed this morning.

Operation E.F.V.4.

Force P (units under C.S.1.) sailed from Seidis Fiord at 2220Z/26. Force Q sailed at 0920/27 (See A.C.I.C., 1105/27).

Operation "Chess"

A small raid was carried out near Fecamp in the early hours of this morning.

Enemy Air Operations.

It is reported that trawler BEN STROME was bombed and sunk at 1530 15 miles S.E. of Fuglo Island, Faeroes.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Force H returned to Gibraltar today with NELSON, EDINBURGH and other forces which took part in Operation SUBSTANCE. S.O. Force H transferred his flag to NELSON today.

South Atlantic.

S.S. LIDVARD (Norwegian) reported at 1902/27 being attacked by an unknown vessel in 12° 35' N., 17° 52' W. This ship is Norwegian and (as was learnt subsequently) had escaped by a ruse from seizure at Dakar, and at time of her report was being chased by a Vichy French patrol vessel. BRIDGEWATER, WRESTLER, a corvette and HIGHLANDER have been ordered to investigate.

Mediterranean.

Malta. — There was an air raid on Malta last night. No damage was caused.

Libya and Western Desert. — C. in C. Med., reports that air raids and shelling at Tobruk are reported to have been less intensive lately.

Storeship LESBOS has unloaded and sailed.

5 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi docks last night.

Air Attack on Port Said. — About 8 aircraft approached Port Said about 0400 (today). Only one penetrated inland and dropped 4 large calibre bombs near Kantara, without causing any material damage or casualties.

/LEANDER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

LEANDER has left Alexandria for New Zealand on relief by NEPTUNE.

East Indies.

Seychelles. Owing to the increased use of the Seychelles by H.M. Ships it has been found necessary to appoint a N.O.I.C.

China.

It is reported that the Japanese occupation of Indo-China with the acquiescence of the French Govt. commenced last night. (Note. The main landing is expected to commence 29/7.)

Information indicates that the Japanese may take over all French merchant shipping in Indo-China. The Admiralty have given certain instructions to C. in C. China.

U-Boat Campaign.

U.S. patrols at 1800 G.M.T. made contact with a U-boat in 48° 37' N., 38° 22' W., and are trailing the S/M.

Attack on O.G.69. At 0500B today, SUNFLOWER reported that Convoy O.G.69 had been attacked in approx. 45° N., 17½ W., about 350 miles W. by N. of Cape Finnisterre, S.S. NORITA, HAWKINGE, WROTHAM and INGA I were sunk.

/D/F .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign. - Contd.

D/F bearings this morning indicate that at least 5 U-Boats are still in contact with O.G. 69. Enemy aircraft also shadowed the convoy today. It was thought probable that Italian S/Ms to the southward would join in the attack later, and the convoy was ordered to alter course at dark. The maximum air protection was asked for from Gibraltar this evening.

At 2238 the Commodore reported that the escort were engaging 2 enemy S/Ms on the surface in 42° 38' N., 17° 58' W.

S/M in Red Sea.

SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA was attacked by a submarine (presumed to be Vichy French) in the Gulf of Tajara. R.A.F. are co-operating in the search for the submarine.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941 Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

STRATHEDEN. Two H. Class destroyers will be required to sail from Iceland about 1/8. A.C.I.C. is requested to detail two destroyers which will subsequently escort STRATHEDEN in accordance with Admty's 1402B/26. (C. in C.W.A. 1545B/27.)

ISAAC SWEERS. Is urgently required for escort duty from Clyde on 2/8. Request she may be sailed to Clyde accordingly. (C. in C.W.A. 1550B/27 to R.A.D. H.F.)
Your 1550B/27. This will be done and as much working up as possible completed.
(R.A.D. 1855B/27 to C. in C.W.A.)

Co-operation with Russia.

(1st Lord 1758B/27, Admiral Miles 1708C/27)
See Operations Volume.

Movements.

EREBUS. My 1020B/26. QUORN and CATTISTOCK will form escort for EREBUS to Kinnaird Head. If considered necessary request you will provide escort from Kinnaird Head to destination.
E.T.A. Kinnaird Head 0730/31. (C. in C. Nore. 1106B/27 to C. in C.H.F.)

Operations.

Operation F.B. Force A. W/T communication arrangements. (C. in C.H.F. 0059B/27 to S.O. Force A.)

Scapa departures NIGERIA and AURORA with TARTAR and PUNJABI. (A.C.O.S. 1000B/27.)

TIGRIS. Information as to Operation F.B. (F.O.S. 1021B/27 to TIGRIS, Capt. S.3. TRIDENT.)

Operation E.F.V.2. (Force P) (Force Q) Units under C.S.1 sailed from Seidisfiord 2220Z/26. Oiler OLIGARCH and O.R.P. GARLAND arrived and sailed with WASTWATER and SEALYHAM 0920/27. (A.C.I.C. 1105/27.)

/If .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Operation E.F.V.2. (Force P) (Force Q) contd.	If foggy or position doubtful Force Q is to steer 050° 6 knots at 1200B/28 and commence D/F procedure E.F.V. appendix 4, para.5 at 1200 if foggy, at 1400 is position doubtful. (C.S.1. 2012/27 to ECLIPSE.)
M.T.B. attack on Destroyer.	Enemy destroyer passed Gris Nez Eastwards at 1345 today. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla attacked at 1440 off Calais and report hitting with 2 torpedoes. Flotilla now returning. E.T.A. with all boats 1545. (V.A. Dover 1516B/27.) My 1516B. Interrogation of C.O's after return to harbour shows insufficient evidence to warrant claim that torpedoes hit. Six torpedoes were fired about 2500 yards. R.D. - F. plot shows that destroyer continued her course at considerable speed. (V.A. Dover 1654B/27.)
ADVENTURE. ANTHONY.	My 1801B/26. ANTHONY has orders to return to Seidisfiord after parting company. (C.S. 1 1713B/27 to C. in C.H.F.)
Operation "Chess".	Carry out operation "Chess" tonight. (V.A. Dover, 1720b/27.)
Dover M.L. Patrols.	One M.L. leaves Dover at 2220 on a southerly course returning from the same direction at about 0230. 4 M.L's patrolling between The Ridge and C. Gris Nez from 0001 till daylight. (V.A. Dover, 1833B/27.)
Exercise S.1.	Your 2222B/24. Exercise postponed 3 days. (D.O.D.H. 1939B/27 to V.A.C.T.C.) Ships required for exercise S.1. are to be brought to 48 hours notice for exercise. (V.A.C.T.C. 2323B/27.)
Ship hit by TUNA on 19/7.	At 0110B/19 in 045° 21' N. 002° 33' W. attacked one very large ship screened by 4 destroyers. Silhouette resembled number 141 O.U. 6329 (1). 2 hits. Course and speed of enemy were 090° 14 knots. (TUNA 2350B/27.)

MOST SECRET.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. VOE A. and B. now being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth 0834/27.)
My 0834/27. Discontinued at 1500/27. (C. in C. Rosyth 1530/27.)
Your 1542B/27. No surface A/S Patrol available. Air A/S Patrol by 3 Northrop Aircraft will be flown one at a time at regular intervals through daylight hours commencing 1600 tomorrow 28th, weather permitting. Aircraft will be based on Budareyri. (A.C.I.C. 1837/27 to C. in C.H.F.)

Emden bombed. On day 26/7 one A/C bombed Emden causing fires. On Night 26/27 all operations were cancelled owing to unfavourable weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1145/27)

Roseneath Bay. Your 1613/23 has been passed to Air Ministry who are arranging to discuss the matter with the U.S. Officer responsible for the construction works for bases in U.K. and to inform Admty. of result of conversations. (Head of M. 1637B/27 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Lowestoft bombed. Lowestoft attacked by 1 E/A. 6 bombs dropped at midnight. A. to D. Nil. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0125B/27.)

Convoy O.G.69. Following received from Commodore. Enemy aircraft circling convoy. My position 106 ROBIN 290 miles. (C. in C. Plymouth 1030 G.M.T./27.)
Commodore in ERATO reports enemy aircraft shadowing in 043° 40' N. 017° 25' W. at 1030Z/27. (C. in C.W.A. 1607B/27 to FLEUR DE LYS.)

Convoy E.C. Convoy PADDLE is being shadowed by one enemy aircraft in 54° 3' N. 0° 7' E. (VERSATILE 1500/27.)

ISABELLA FOWLIE. (Fishing Trawler) Bombed and sunk on 10/7. (D.S. 691)

/Convoy .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Convoy RADIO.	1 aircraft shadowing convoy. My position 52° 55' N. 2° 6' E. (WIDGEON 1741B/27.)
BEN STROME. (Trawler) sunk.	Skipper of Trawler STRATHLOCHY reports that at 1530 one aircraft dropped one bomb on Trawler BEN STROME 15 miles S.E. of Fuglo Island. Direct hit. BEN STROME, was was 500 yards from STRATHLOCHY at time of attack, sank immediately. No survivors. (Capt. D. Greenock 2242B/27.)

Mining.

Off Lough Foyle.	Sunk mine in 55° 27' N. 06° 45' W. (VERITY 1525B/27.)
Firth of Forth.	Red mine detonated by L.L. 27/7 in 333° Inchkeith Light 3900 yards. (C. in C. Rosyth 1829/27.)
Portland.	Minesweepers cut a non-explosive anti-sweeping device in 105° Portland Bill 14 miles at 0900 today. In view of this, my 2008B/26, and previous reports of unexplained explosions in this area, propose that Q.Z.Y. 247 be extended as follows. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1903B/27.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Spitzbergen.	Russian General Staff now state definitely that there are no German troops in Spitzbergen. (V.C.N.S. 0040B/27 to C. in C.H.F., C.S.1, S.O. Force A., F.O.S., ADVENTURE.)
Scandinavian Shipping.	(1) Reports reaching me that convoys consisting of six to ten ships from German Baltic ports had been arriving at Kalmar under German escort. Swedish Defence Ministry assure me that no German escort craft enter Swedish waters and that no agreement regarding changing over of convoy protection has been made with the Germans, though certain Swedish ships are permitted to join German convoys Great Trelleborg Sassnitz route etc. (2) My 1717/21 para. 2. Recent reports indicate that Germans are showing increased interest in certain Norwegian ships completing construction in Sweden, also in Swedish shipping now operating in the Baltic, though this is denied by Swedish Authorities. (N.A. Stockholm 1259/26.)

/SCHARNHORST .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.

SCHARNHORST. R/C of Brest 2000/27 shows SCHARNHORST has moved into dry dock next to GNEISENAU. F.O. C.N.A. pass to S.O. Force H. (D.D.I.C. 2147B/27.)

Casualties and Defects.

MANSFIELD. Engine trouble. Intermediate speed 12 knots. Position 165° Chicken Rock 12. (MANSFIELD 0030B/27.)
Present speed 20 knots. Main starboard gear liable to overheat. (MANSFIELD 0240B/27.)
Return to Liverpool. (C. in C.W.A. 0424B/27 to MANSFIELD.)

WARKWORTH. Police Thurso report a beer tin was found this afternoon Sunday at Reay (10 to 12 miles West of Thurso) containing message "a few survivors S.S. WARKWORTH". (A.C.O.S. 2345/27.)

Shipping & Convoys

Icelandic Ships and Convoys. Admty. 1914/11/4. In view of torpedoing of HEKLA, 1215 tons, on about 29/6 while bound from Reykjavik to Halifax, request whether Icelandic ships may be now allowed to join convoys bound to and from U.S.A. and Canada, provided they are appropriately painted. (A.C.I.C. 1151/27 to Admty.)

F.N., F.S., Escorts. 1150/23 superseded by following programme. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1154B/27 to C. in C. Nore etc.) See Lion Copy.

H.X.140. S.C.38. Request any information you may have as to progress of H.X.140 and S.C.38. (C. in C.W.A. 1216B/27 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

W.S.S.C. Admty. 2003/26. 800 tons of water per day will be required. Request report whether this can be supplied and, if not, maximum which could be made available by reducing local requirements to minimum. (D. of S., 1323B/27 to C. in C.H.F., A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7;1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Flag Force 'H'.	Your 1653/16. Intend to transfer flag to NELSON today 27/7. (S.O. Force 'H'., 0559/27 to Admty.)
BEVERLEY.	Request you will report circumstances under which BEVERLEY returned to Gibraltar and date on which she will be ready to return to U.K. (C. in C.W.A., 1011B/27 to F.O.C.N.A.) See also 1322/27.
Return from Operation "Substance".	Arrival S.O. Force H in RENOWN F.O.C. 18th C.S. EDINBURGH, NELSON, ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE, ARETHUSA, MANXMAN, NESTOR, FAULKNOR, FOX HOUND, FORESIGHT, FURY, COSSACK, MAORI, SIDH, LIGHTNING DUNCAN. (F.O.C.N.A. 1106B/27 to Admty. etc.) My 1106B, delete SIKH. Gibraltar arrival SIKH, FIREDRAKE, ERIDGE, AVONVALE. (F.O.C.N.A. 2320B/27 to Admty. etc.)
CLYDE.	Leave patrol after dark today/27 and proceed diving by day to 180° Cape St. Vincent 30, thence on surface adjusting speed to arrive in 350° Spartel and at 1200A/31 for onward escort. F.O.(S) requested to cancel bombing restriction. (F.O.C.N.A., 1138B/27 to CLYDE).
PASTEUR. LEINSTER. BRECONSHIRE.	Ref. my 2030B/25 and your 1634B/26. Request immediate decision as to disposal of personnel. PASTEUR is being used as accommodation ship and I intend sailing her P.M./28. Should like to sail LEINSTER with BRECONSHIRE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1204B/27 to Admty.)
MANCHESTER.	Afloat in dock. Damage. (C.S. Gibraltar, 1212B/27 to Admty.)
Fuelling, Fayal.	A.T. 1847B/26. Cancel para 1A (CONSBRO, PANORAMA) Ships have been recalled to U.K. (D.O.D.(F) 1216B/27 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).
BEVERLEY. H.G. 69.	Ref. 1938B/14 from C. in C. W.A. Intend sailing BEVERLEY with H.G. 69 p.m./28. Further that BEVERLEY should part company as requisite, fuel Ponta Delgada (? and on) completion rejoin H.G. 69 providing escort as far as endurance permits. Request Admty. arrange fuel for BEVERLEY at Ponta Delgada a.m./3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1322B/27 to Admty.)

/"Substance".....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

"Substance". movements and Personnel.

My 1634B/26, para (F). King's Own Reg. ex-Substance will probably be embarked in PASTEUR for passage home. R.A.F. personnel as in Air Ministry 2030/26 to 200 Group. Lieut. Commdr. D.H. Leggatt and Sgt. Ambrose should be sent to Malta at earliest opportunity. (V.C.N.S. 1324B/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1634B/26 and 1324B/27. Intend sailing as follows - Group 1. EDINBURGH, ARETHUSA, MANXMAN, FOXHOUND, 2200A/28.
Group 2. RENOWN, PASTEUR, COSSACK, MAORI, SIKH, LIGHTNING 2300A/28.
Group 3. NESTOR and ENCOUNTER 1600A/28. FOXHOUND is included group 1 owing lack of endurance. (F.O.C.N.A. 2020/27 to Admty.)

ILE DE RE (French).

Departure 27/7. New York. Date of arrival unknown - without Navicert. (R.O. Horta, 1610Z/27 to M. of W.T.).

Ships Carrying Pyrites.

Your 1142/26. H.M. Representatives are being instructed to distinguish in their reports between ships with cargoes suspected of enemy destination and others. Only those reported as suspect should be detained. (D.E.W.D. 2006B/27 to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar.)

South Atlantic.

MARISA THORDEN.

Finnish ship now under Panamanian flag, now on passage from Norfolk Virginia to Rio de Janeiro. Should vessel be intercepted? (R.A.S.A.D. 0047Z/27 to C. in C. S.A).

Takoradi.

My 1843N/15 and my 1941N/26. Proposed A.T. nets round Takoradi anchorage as follows. (C. in C. S.A., 0223N/27 to Admty.)

/ALCANTARA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

ALCANTARA.	Proceed to pick up Buenos Aires pilot at Recalada at 0300 G.M.T./31. On arrival Buenos Aires you may request extension of visit to 48 hours vide C.S.A.I. 150 para. 7. On leaving proceed to F.O. to embark from U.S. coastguard vessel HERMES (vide my 2103/5). Further orders by letter per Oiler BROOMDALE. (R.A.S.A.D. 1308Z/27 to ALCANTARA, 1324Z/27 to N.A. Buenos Aires.).
ERLANGEN (German) (sunk 26/7)	R.A.S.A.D's 1456Z/25. Following prisoners taken from ERLANGEN - 16 officers 42 men, of whom one officer and two men wounded in attempt to prevent scuttling have since died and been (? buried) at sea. Remainder are being transferred to CARNARVON CASTLE. (NEWCASTLE, 1427Z/27 to C. in C. S.A).
CARNARVON CASTLE. NEWCASTLE. ALCANTARA.	CARNARVON CASTLE embarking prisoners from NEWCASTLE at F.O. 28/7 then proceeding K.33. NEWCASTLE remaining in Plate Area. ALCANTARA fuelling Buenos Aires 31/7, embarking extra ammunition from oiler BROOMDALE at F.O. 3/8 then patrolling L.32. Hope to visit Buenos Aires in NEWCASTLE 5/8 without fuelling. (R.A.S.A.D. 1554Z/27 to S.A.D).
Force Z. ALCANTARA.	My 0331/5. ALCANTARA is no longer part of Force "Z". (C. in C. S.A., 1627N/27 to Admty. etc.)
GALATEA.	GALATEA arrived Simonstown 1200/27 to fuel and departed 1600 same day to rejoin Convoy W.S.9.B and escort to DURBAN. E.T.A. daylight/30. All times G.M.T. (11) Capetown arrival 1600/27 portion of (?Convoy) W.S.9B. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1950Z/27).
LIDVARD attacked.	Attacked by an unknown vessel position 12.35 N., 17.52 W. (LIDVARD (Norwegian) 1955Z/27, 2015Z/27 to Any British Man o' War).

/LIDVARD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

27.7.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

LIDVARD attacked - Contd.

LIDVARD last reported at Dakar on 5/7 and may be among those recently requisitioned and reported being taken North. Possible ship has either escaped from Dakar or from escort and re-located by French. (?Sweepers) 1335 and 1930 of Bathurst may also have been looking for ship. BRIDGEWATER, WRESTLER, one corvette in vicinity have been told to close at best speed also HIGHLANDER who can arrive a.m./28. Instructions to ships as in my 2117N/27 repeated to you. (C. in C. S.A., 2105N/27 to Admty.)
My 2035N/27, not to Admiralty. If ship is LIDVARD and free she is to be escorted by HIGHLANDER to Freetown. If she has escaped from French and been recaptured by them and your force is superior, French are to be informed they cannot be allowed to take ship, which is an allied vessel illegally seized, and force will be used if necessary to prevent this, though hoped not necessary. Possible that S/M reported off Bathurst is in company. If your force is equal or inferior remain in touch and report. Report in any case situation as met to C. in C. S.A. and Admiralty. (C. in C. S.A., 2117N/27 to BRIDGEWATER, WRESTLER, HIGHLANDER) W.D. Note:- For full report of LIDVARD's escape from Dakar, see C. in C. S.A., 1211N/30.

BRITANNIA survivors.

My 1730/3/4 49 Naval and Military Ranks now released. Understand British ARDEOLA is expected at Las Palmas in a day or two. Propose to request vessel to call here to take party Gibraltar provided ship has sufficient life boat accommodation, otherwise to send them by a Spanish Ship and I presume they could be taken off at Gibraltar. (Consul Teneriffe, 2230/27, to R.A. Gibraltar).

EDITH GERMAINE (French) intercepted.

AMARANTHUS in company. Have intercepted French trawler EDITH GERMAINE P.C. and S. 012° 38' N. 017° 55' W. 335° 10 knots approx. Am shadowing. Request instructions. (GARDENIA, 2231N/27 to C. in C. S.A.).

SAGITTAIRE Free French passengers.

My 1505/7. Col. Andre and 2 Seamen are on board SAGITTAIRE, not CHENONCEAUX. SAGITTAIRE passed (? Sunda Strait) 1/7 for Madagascar, Dakar and France. Col. Mangan, reported Pro British and Pro De Gaulle, is also passenger. SAGITTAIRE is expected to be off Cape of Good Hope about 23/7, in latitude of St. Helena about 30/7 and latitude of Freetown about 5/8. (C. in C. S.A., 2323N/27 to S.A. Squdn.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

URGE.
UPHOLDER,
P.32

URGE left area M. p.m./26 to arrive Malta a.m./29 Submarines encountered are not to be attacked. Ref. V.A. Malta's 1130B/25, P.32 remain west of 11° so as to make passage J to H during daylight/29 to arrive Malta 31st. URGE to make same passage during daylight/28. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1015B/27 to UPHOLDER, P.32, URGE.)

Alexandria & Port Said Raids. Benghazi bombed.

My A.885 26/7, para 1. Raid on Alexandria night 25/26 made by 9 aircraft. Damage slight, no casualties. Night 26/27. About 9 enemy aircraft operated over Port Said. Night 25/26 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour starting 3 fires. 1 aircraft also bombed Gazala north landing ground starting 2 fires. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1024/27.)

PARTHIAN.
OTUS.

Instructions. (Capt.S.1. 1042C/27.)

Port Said Raid.

8 A/C approached 1937 to westward Port Said about 0400C/27. Only 1 penetrated inland and dropped 4 large calibre bombs vicinity Kantara remainder apparently jettisoned bombs to seawards Port Said approach. No material damage or casualties, raid end 0500C. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1103C/27 to Admty. etc.)

HYACINTH.
ISIS.

Proceed Port Said when necessary to comply with my 1002/26 and my 0902/26. ISIS continues independently to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med. 1115C/27 to HYACINTH.)

VOYAGER.

Request you sail VOYAGER for Aden to await instructions for onward passage to repair base. (C. in C. Med. 1201C/27 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.)

NEPTUNE.
ABDIEL.
LATONA.
JAGUAR.

Take NEPTUNE, ABDIEL, LATONA, JAGUAR under your orders. Sail Haifa p.m./28 to arrive Alexandria 1000/29. NEPTUNE to be taken in hand for adjustment of short range A.A. guns on arrival. (C. in C. Med. 1203C/27 to D.14.)

/Vichy .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Vichy Repatriations.	Admty. 1907/26. Repatriation arrangements set out in my 1801/23 are those approved by Middle East War Council presided over by Minister of State. View of C. in C. M.E. with which I fully concur is that provided ample opportunity is given to De Gaulle to induce them to join the Free French there should be as little delay as possible in repatriating Vichy French. (C. in C. Med. 1247C/27 to Admty.)
Naval Raid on Malta 26/7.	V.A. Malta 1251B/27 amended 2135R/27 to Admty. See Lion Copy. V.A. Malta 2150B/27 see Mediterranean Volume.
Operation "Substance"	Air H.Q.* reports that on D.3 Beaufighters sank one E-boat and damaged one S.79, and D.4 they shot down 2 JU.87 while covering convoy. Request you elaborate last sentence in para. 13 of your 2052B/25 as this may effect planning of future operations. (V.C.N.S.1255B/27 to F.O. Force H.) Reply: 1131/28. On behalf of 3 Services and Gov. of Malta, I desire to convey to you our great appreciation of bringing "Substance" so successfully to Malta. In addition congratulate you on success of M.G.1 in which many of our families were safely removed from this Island. (Govr. Malta 1340B/27 to S.O. Force H.) * Malta.
Turkey and Axis Ships.	Your 1820/25. I am most concerned at this proposal which can only have effect of putting these eleven ships within much closer reach of Axis first on passage and then at their new destination. We have not asked for any of these ships in terms of armistice and are not expecting it, and Turks should be asked for what reasons these ships are being moved to Balkans from their present safe position. It should also be pointed out that we do not guarantee safety of the ships on passage. (C. in C. Med. 1341C/27 to N.A. Angora.) Reply: 1634/29.
ELISABETH HENDRIK FISSER, HANS SCHMIDT (German.)	Arrived 24/7, ready to leave Savona or Genoa with cargo 7000 tons iron ore. (Valencia, T.H.I.1400/27 to M. of W.T.)

/Malta.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Air Raid. E/B attack 26/7.	Night 26/7. 2 alarms, 6 aircraft, bombs in fields, no casualties. Ref. my I.479, 26/7. 1 enemy M.T.B. salvaged, 20 dead and 18 prisoners picked up. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1600/27).
CANADA.	My 1034/22. Revised route and time-table. (N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports 1921/27 to C. in C. Med.)
Enemy Convoy.	Expected slow north bound convoy of 5 merchant ships and 4 destroyers left 0930B/27 anticipate usual route. Small warship in tow also left today for repairs at Naples and should make good 13 knots. (Cdr. S.1., 2115B/27 to S/M's Malta Force).
Alexandria minesweeping.	Your 1541B/23 and C. in C's 18500/25. Summary for week ending 26/7. Total of 13 mines disposed of as follows. (R.A. Alexandria, 2201/27 to Admty.)
Situation Report 99.	LEANDER has left Alexandria for New Zealand. (ii) Air raids and shelling at Tobruk reported less intensive recently. Storeship LESBOS has unloaded and sailed. (C. in C. Med., 2237/27 to Admty. etc.).
Interned Vichy Ships.	Part one of my 2243/27 (N.T) begins. Your 1244/26 para one. (a) All eleven French ships are in Ayas Bay. (b) Future movements are contemplated (my 18200/25 refers) owing to lack of food water and difficulties of maintaining (? them). (c) On representation to Turks assurance received that in addition to munitions being disembarked essential parts of armament and machinery had been removed. Inspection of ships however not permitted (please see end of my 1833? 18). Part 2 of my 22430/27 follows. (N.A. Angora 22360/27 to C. in C. Med.)
Syria.	Report on campaign 8/6 to 12/7. (C. in C. M.E., 2337/27 to W.O) See Lion Copy.
Interned Vichy Ships	Part 2 final of my 22430/27. (2) Turkish (?S. of S. for F.Aff.) tackled p.m./24 why ships could move at all in view of (c) above stated essential parts had been replaced for move to Ayas Bay but would be again removed and Turkish armed guards would remain on board. (3) Para 2 of your above quoted telegram. Enquiries will be made concerning ship and why no information passed to you (N.A. Angora, 22430/27 to C. in C.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

RANCHI.
CARTHAGE.

Following patrol movements have been ordered. RANCHI arrive Durban a.m./31. CARTHAGE leave Durban p.m./30 arrive Durban a.m./2/8. (2) CARTHAGE will be docked 9/8. (C. in C.E.I. 0820Z/27 to N.O.I.C. Durban.)

Mombasa Coal.

Bunker coal stocks exhausted owing to diversion of colliers. Request ships may bunker to capacity Durban and Aden. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa 0825Z/27 to C. in C.E.I.)

S/M attack on SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA.

Submarine has attacked SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA in Gulf of Tajura. Torpedo seen on shore. R.A.F. are co-operating and intention is to attack submarine whenever she is found including Djibouti harbour. (S.N.O. Red Sea 0855Z/27 to C. in C.E.I.)
Your 0855/27 passed to Admiralty by L/T. Concur in your intentions except submarine is not to be attacked in Djibouti Harbour until you have informed the Governor of Djibouti of incident and warned him that if submarine is located in his harbour it will be bombed. (C. in C.E.I. 1436Z/27 to S.N.O. R.S.)

Action deferred pending reference to Minister of State. (Mid. East 1800/27 to A.O.C. Aden; C. in C.E.I. 0002/28 to C. in C.M.E; C. in C.E.I. 0004Z/28 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.9 A.X.

Departure ANTENOR escorting W.S. 9 A.X. (S.O.I. Bombay 0912Z/27 to Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N. etc.)
(1) W.S.9 A.X.
(2) 1100Z/27 EMPRESS OF JAPAN, DURBAN CASTLE, CAPETOWN CASTLE. (N.C.S.O. Bombay 1104Z/27 to Admty.)

SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA ammunition.

A.T.1800B/12/6. Request report as to intentions for on-carriage of ammunition for F.S. SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA shipped to Capetown in S.S. CLAN MACBRAYNE and consigned D.A.S.O. Simonstown. (D.O.D.(F) 1511B/27 to C. in C.E.I.)

Minesweeping.

Appreciation of requirements. (D.M.S. 1700B/27 to C. in C.E.I.) See Lion Copy.

/Seychelles .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Seychelles. Owing to increased use of Seychelles by H.M. Ships it has been found necessary to appoint a Naval Officer in Charge. My 1700/27 refers. (N.T. in W.D.) (C. in C.E.I. 1702Z/27 to Admty.)

China.

French Ships. From intercepted correspondence, following French ships are on passage from Marseilles to Saigon, CAP PADARAN departed 20/6, VILLE DE VERDUN Departed 10/7, CAP VARELLA departed 22/5. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0229Z/27 to Admty.)

Japanese S/M's. Your 1552/24 to N.O.I.C. Hong Kong and his 0457/26 to me. Could you suggest if Japanese Navy wished to avoid incidents easiest way to achieve this is to remove their patrols from proximity of Hong Kong, observing that this is a British Naval base and we are in a state of openly declared warfare. We must hold them entirely responsible for any incident which may occur if they continue to maintain S/M's so near our waters. (C. in C. China, 0235Z/27 to N.A. Tokyo.) Reply: 1651/29.

Refusal of Bunkers. My 0304/26. Nor at Shanghai. (C. in C. China, 0356Z/27 to Admty.)

Far East. Chiefs of Staff F.E.18 to C. in C. Far East. (1st S.L. 1809B/27 to C. in C. China, C. in C.E.I See Lion Copy.

Vichy Shipping. Information from U.S. sources indicates Japanese may take over all French Merchant Shipping in Indo-China. Any Vichy Ship passing east-bound through the Sunda Straits should therefore, if possible, be intercepted and detained, pending clarification of situation in Indo-China. Dutch are being asked to take similar action. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2255B/27 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 27.7.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Task Group 122.	Following received from U.S. Naval Authorities (begins) :- ALUSNA Ottawa has been requested to deliver to C.N.S. Ottawa for information. Task Group 122 is the new designation given to NEW MEXICO and two destroyers which formerly composed Patrol Group 1.2. This group has been directed to proceed to anchorage Iceland and it is estimated that their 1700 G.C.T. position on 26/7. will be 50° N. 35° W. Upon the arrival of Task Force 16 they will be joined by the QUINCY and SIMSON. 0045/27 (ends) (D.D.I.C. 0854B/27 to C. in C.A.W.I., A.C.I.C. etc.)
LARISTAN.	Your 1706/25. LARISTAN repairing Halifax. E.T.A. Trinidad 16/8. (Director of Stores 1245B/27 to N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, Trinidad.)
F.C. and C.A.M.ships.	Repeating C. in C.W.A. 1544B/26. (D.T.D. 1516B/27 to N.C.S.O's, Sydney C.B., Bermuda etc.) See Lion Copy.
NIKOLIMA MATKOVIC.	Your 2057Z/25. Intercepted letter 25/6 states (A) Ship sailed without clearance. (B) Captain will explain on arrival New York. Further details. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1601R/27 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
AURANIA.	B.A.R.M's 1256R/22 (N.T. in W.R.) Due to delay in receipt of this signal AURANIA sailed for Newport News p.m./27, E.T.A. 0800/30. (F.O.3 B.S. 1745P/27 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
O.N. Convoy Escorts.	My 1236/25. In view of Admty. 14025/26, request you will sail units of Newfoundland Escort Force as follows:- (i) Group 17 and one destroyer of group 14 and group 21 with 2 destroyers of group 14 with Convoy O.N.1 and O.N.2. (ii) Group 20 and RIPLEY with O.N.3. (iii) Remaining 2 destroyers of group 14 to Halifax with STRATHEDEN. (C.C.N.F. 1801Z/27 to A.C.I.C.)
S.S.TEKOA.	H.X.141 My 1826Z/27. TEKOA D.G. not safe under 22 fathoms. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1927Z/27 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

EMPRESS OF JAPAN.	D. of S.T. 0508B/22. Request anticipated date of sailing from Singapore. (A.C.N.B. 0109Z/27 to Cdre. Malaya, etc.)
Easter Island PRINCE ROBERT, PRINCE HENRY.	Your 1111Q/26. PRINCE ROBERT available. E.T.A. Auckland p.m./28 and will sail for Easter Island on completion of fuelling. Not yet known if AWATEA will sail August voyage. If so ship will leave Suva 16/8. MONOWAI only available ship in New Zealand waters and is required for important escort duties from 10/8 and onward. It would be appreciated if PRINCE HENRY could be held available pending further request. (N.Z.N.B. 1102M/27 to C. in C.A.W.I.) PRINCE ROBERT is to sail for Easter Island on completion of fuelling to investigate report of damaged raider lying up there. On arrival at Auckland report E.T.A. (a) A. & W.I. Station. (b) Easter Island. Ship can fuel Valparaiso. (N.Z.N.B. 1200M/27 to PRINCE ROBERT.)
Obliterating Ship Names.	Your 1126M/23. Painting out of ship's name considered sufficient provided that in cases where raised letters are removed all surfaces are thoroughly scraped before painting. (D.T.D. 1243B/27 to N.Z.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

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Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

PANDIAS (torpedoed 13/6.)

Your 1911B/22. Master Greek Ship PANDIAS arrived Freetown from French Guinea 25/7. Vessel torpedoed at 0815/13/6 in 007° 49' N., 023° (? 28') W.
(C. in C. S.A., 0029N/27, to Admty.)
4981 tons, position about 600 miles W. of Freetown. Sailed from Milford Haven 24/5 for Capetown with coal and Govt., stores.
(D.S. 692, 28/7.)

ATLANTIC CITY. (torpedoed 26/7.)

Making entrance Lough Swilly ATLANTIC CITY must discharge cargo. Have you orders for us?
(ZWARTE ZEE, 0600B/27, to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
ATLANTIC CITY anchored Lough Swilly in 8 fathoms. Settled, now drawing 45 feet forward. In view of damage and shifting cargo Master considers inadvisable to proceed further. Intend returning to Londonderry.
(SPEEDY, 0800B/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
Salvage Tug RANGER is proceeding from Belfast to ATLANTIC CITY. Continue to stand by until relieved by her then return to Lough Foyle.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0929B/27 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
Your 0600. Continue to stand by ship until further orders. Keep me informed of any further developments.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0935B/27 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
Lloyds agents report ATLANTIC CITY is settling. If any fear of her sinking she is to be beached in Lough Swilly.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1053B/27 to ZWARTE ZEE.)

O.G.69, HAWKINGE NORITA.

O.G.69 attacked, at least 2 ships torpedoed.
(SUNFLOWER, 0500B/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
Ships were British. HAWKINGE, 2475 tons. Glasgow to Lisbon, and Swedish NORITA, 1516 tons, Hartlepool to Huelva with coke. Both believed sunk.
(D.S., 692, 28/7.)
If there is any doubt whether all survivors have been picked up ST.NECTAN should remain in vicinity until they are all recovered.
(C. in C. W.A., 1042B/27 to SUNFLOWER.)

/NORITA.....

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

O.G.69, HAWKINGE NORITA. Contd.

NORITA and HAWKINGE sunk, possibly a third ship. Have 14 survivors from HAWKINGE. ST. NECTAN has 10 possibly from NORITA. Instructed ST.NECTAN to remain in the vicinity of NORITA until daylight Sunday. Have searched 3 hours in vicinity HAWKINGE; no trace of other survivors. Many promising attacks carried out on U-Boat. Am proceeding in accordance with your 1540B/26.
(SUNFLOWER, 1230B/27, to C. in C. W.A.)
Senior Officer present on O.G.69. make brief report of situation.
(C. in C. W.A., 1631/27 to SUNFLOWER.)
Expect Catalina air escort at dawn /28.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1824B/27, to JASMINE.)
U.Boats are still shadowing you.
(D.D.I.C. 1926B/27 to SUNFLOWER,ALISMA,JASMINE.
O.G.69 is still being shadowed by U Boat and was attacked early this morning. Indications are that a number of U-Boats are in vicinity of convoy and further attacks are to be expected. Also probable that Italians to southward will join in attack later. Convoy ordered to alter course at dark tonight for 36° 40' N., 09° 00' W. Request maximum air protection from Gibraltar as soon as possible. Have you any A/S surface craft you can send to augment the escort?
(V.C.N.S., 2051B/27, to F.O.C.N.A., amended 2312B/27.)
Reply: see North Atlantic, 0128/28.
Report immediately information required by my 1531B/27, giving escorts now with convoy.
(C. in C. W.A., 2208B/27, to JASMINE.)
Your 2015B/27. (N.T. in W.D.) Report names of ships torpedoed and numbers of and whereabouts of survivors.
(C. in C. W.A., 2318B/27 to JASMINE.)

IDA KNUDSEN (torpedoed 21/7.)

14 Norwegian survivors from IDA KNUDSEN including master, second officer, third officer torpedoed 2010 hours G.M.T./21 034° 34' N., 014° 40' W., and picked up 25/7 by Portuguese trawler ALTAIR landed here today/27. Whereabouts of boat in charge of Chief Officer not known. Unless instructions to contrary I am arranging with master HAMLA now here with coal to transport survivors to Freetown.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1330/27, to D.N.I., Norwegian tanker, under Govt., charter, independent from Trinidad to Gibraltar.
(D.S.692.)

MOST SECRET.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

22/7. My 2052Z/22 and my 2130Z/23, no further indication of submarines after search by (?Corvettes) and aircraft.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 0139Z/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.G.69. My 2129B/26. D/F bearings indicate that at least five U/Bs are still in contact with OG.69. (D.D.I.C. 0824B/27 to SUNFLOWER, ALISMA, JASMINE. Search an area 30 miles radius from 55° 40' N., 11° 00' W.
(C. in C. W.A., 1116B/27, to HARRIER.)

If not in contact by midnight return to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., 2021B/27 to HARRIER.)

21/7.
23/7. Your 0121B/27. (repetition of 1908B/25, from C.S.1. re U-boat reported in Mjofi Fiord.
2 A/S Trawlers and aircraft searched vicinity on receipt of the report on 21/7 without result. Did not consider report reliable.
(A.C.I.C., 1218Z/27, to Admty.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1428B/27.)

1800 G.M.T. Task Unit 122 reports it has made contact with S/M by underwater sound gear 48.37 N., 38.22 W., at 1800 G.M.T. A destroyer is trailing the submarine at various courses and speeds.
(Lands End W/T, L'pool W/T 2005/27, A.L.U.S.N.A., 2355/27, to Admty.)

1830. MMM Long green streaks 58.42 N., 9.30 W.
(A/C Duty O., 1830/27 to R.A.F.)

1812.G.M.T. S/M reported in 048° 37' N., 038° 22' W., at 1812 G.M.T./27.
(C.O.A.C., Halifax, 18352/27, to G.B.7A.)

1930. Following has been read:-
262W of Bathurst 20 miles out Course 270 Enemy Submarine in sight.
(Bathurst Radio, 1930/27.)

MOST SECRET.

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27.7.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C.	Am investigating suspicious object (oil patch) as indicated in position 49.58 N., 12.02 W. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate hits nil. (A/C Duty L, 1051/27 to No.15 Group.)
By O.G.69. Escort.	(See Ships Attacked.) 2 enemy S/Ms on surface being engaged by escort, my position 042° 38'N., 017° 58' W. (Cdre, O.G.69, 2238/27, to C. in C. Plymouth.)
By A/C.	Am investigating oil patch in 55.45 N., 10.12 W. Have attacked enemy with depth charges. (Duty Y 98 Sqn., 1549/27.) Have attacked enemy S/M with depth charges in 55.46 N., 1° 11 W., Oil increasing. (Duty Y98 Sqn., 1619/27.)
By TUNA 10/7 11/7.	At 2306B/10 and 0114B/11 unsuccessfully attacked U/B in 46.00 N., 09.40 W., by asdic. (TUNA, 2350B/27 to F.O. (S)).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

T.L.C's. C. in C. Rosyth reports that the breakdown of T.L.C's on passage is a matter which requires early investigation. These craft have become a byword for unreliability and cannot for this reason be included in convoys.

Russian Ships. Russian ships which are of suitable speed and make applications are to be accepted for convoy.

Denmark Straits. SHROPSHIRE left Hvalfiord this morning to patrol in Denmark Straits.

British Air Operations.

10 Wellingtons last night attacked docks and shipping at Dunkirk. Hampdens laying mines off Lorient attacked the docks there. Flying was severely curtailed by bad weather today.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler STRATHLOCHY A.596 was bombed at 1710 today 180 miles N.W. of Rora Head, Orkney, and was abandoned, badly damaged.

Minesweeper TEHANA reported being attacked at 2255B today off Orfordness.

Mining.

15 aircraft laid mines last night in the St. Nazaire area, 20 in the Lorient area, 3 off Rouen - Rade de la Carosse, and 3 off Le Havre.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

23.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

At 0830Z/28 HIGHLANDER reported that she had intercepted LIDVARD in 16° 44' N. 17° 26' W. unaccompanied, and is escorting her to Freetown (See 27/7.)

LIDVARD, which escaped from Dakar (see 27/7) was met by HIGHLANDER this morning in 16° 44' N. 17° 26' W. and escorted to Freetown.

Mediterranean.

Italian cruiser torpedoed.

At 1952B/28 UPHOLDER hit with two torpedoes in 38° 4' N. 11° 57' E. an Italian cruiser of the EMANUELE FILIBERTO DUCA D'AOSTA class.

Air raid on flying boat bases.

Blenheims from Malta today attacked flying boat anchorages at Marsala and Syracuse. Subsequent R/C failed to discover any sunk aircraft.

America and West Indies.

PRINCE ROBERT is proceeding to Easter Island, to investigate a report that a damaged raider is there.

U.Boat Campaign.

Convoy O.G.69.

FAULKNOR, FORESTER and FURY sailed at 0820B/28 from Gibraltar to reinforce the escort of O.G.69. There were indications that an Italian U.Boat near Cape St. Vincent received instructions to intercept the convoy.

JASMINE reports that LAPLAND and NORITA were torpedoed at 2145B today in 40° 36' N. 15° 30' W. (NORITA was reported torpedoed yesterday.) The convoy appears to have been dispersed by this attack.

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U.Boat Campaign.

Air escort was given today from Gibraltar to Convoy O.G.69. At 1830 the escorting Catalina attacked a P.boat in 40° 32' (02?) N, 15° 26' W. but bombs failed to explode.

Air escort was also given to H.G.69. Both escorts were recalled to base by dusk on account of the weather.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

28.7.1941.
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Swedish Ships. Your 1205/25. Swedish Legation has been informed that ships bound west must not proceed in company. (D.E.W.D. 1343B/28 to N.A. Stockholm)

Unreliability of T.L.C's The breakdown of T.L.C's on passage is a matter of concern and requires early investigation. T.L.C. 105 is broken down at Aberdeen, and T.L.C's 116 and 137 are delayed at Methil. Breakdowns of T.L.C's passing through the Rosyth Command have been so frequent that these craft have become a byword for unreliability. For these reasons their inclusion in convoys is out of the question and the resulting delays to T.L.C's and special escorts are disturbing. (C. in C. Rosyth 1731/28).

Trawler for Inverary. Would it be possible to lend me another trawler in place of LOCH MONTEITH. She has continual engine trouble and has been out of action for a month. It is most important that T.L.C's operating from Oban should have an escort and when none is available the operations are much delayed. (V.A.C.T.C. 1815B/28 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

STRATHEDEN Escort for CANTON and EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA can only be provided by two destroyers Newfoundland escort force. It is intended that these destroyers should then comply with your 1402B/26 and, in order to avoid further reduction of escort for O.N. and H.X. convoys, request STRATHEDEN may proceed Iceland with D.S.9 to enable her escort to refuel before continuing destination. (C. in C. W.A. 1858/28).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Emergency Identification Signals. Admiralty 1818B/22 June. U.S. signals continue as follows. (D.S.D. 1905B/28 and 1908B/28).

Task Force 16. Composition, movement and route. (D.O.D. H. 1045B/28) See Operations Volume, Movements.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

EREBUS.	My 1020B/26. Sailing of EREBUS delayed by defects. (C. in C. Nore 1014B/28 to A.C.O.S.) My 1106B/27. Amend escort to read. WORCESTER and QUORN and E.T.A. Kinnaird Head 0530/1. (C. in C. Nore 1714B/28). My 1020B/26 and my 1014B/28. EREBUS now due to sail for Scapa at 0600/30. (C. in C. Nore 1716B/28). My 1716/28. Endeavour should be made to safeguard vessel from mines as far as is practicable and minesweeping resource permits. Area where depth of water is less than 15 fathoms should be specially swept for magnetic mines, if presence of these is suspected. Vessel will be accompanied by destroyer using S.A. gear. (C. in C. Nore 2310B/28 to N.O.I.C. Humber, Yarmouth, Harwich, Sheerness).
STURGEON.	After passing 048° 41' N. 006° 06' W. proceed in accordance with S.M.Z 2 to patrol in Bay of Biscay west zone. (F.O.S. 1027B/28 to STURGEON).
Task Force 16.	Composition, movement and route. (D.O.D.H. 1045B/28). See Operations Volume.
ESPERANCE BAY. MALAYA.	My 1147B/25. ESPERANCE BAY is to be sailed to Rosyth in company with MALAYA. Reduction of speed to 15 knots must be accepted. C. in C. Rosyth and C. in C. Nore are requested to arrange for onward passage of ESPERANCE BAY to London providing such special escort as may be considered necessary. (A.C.N.S.H. 1226B/28).
Denmark Straits Patrol.	Sailed at 1130Z in accordance with your 1804B/24. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1448/28).
HALCYON. SALAMANDER.	Request you sail HALCYON and SALAMANDER for Seidis Fiord when ready. Their object is to provide A/S protection for the anchorage and the S.O. is to carry out the duties of S.N.O. at Seidis Fiord. (C. in C. H.F. 1504B/28 to R.A.D.H.F). SALAMANDER with HALCYON proceed passing Swiths 2000B today to Seidis Fiord Iceland. (R.A.D. 1752B/28).

/WINCHESTER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

WINCHESTER. Part company from F.N. 98 at 22 buoy and proceed with moderate despatch to Invergordon. You are required for special escort duty on 30th to Lerwick thence returning to Invergordon. On completion return to Rosyth independently. (C. in C. Rosyth 1543/28 to WINCHESTER).

ADVENTURE. Admiral Miles' 18060/23. Following is paraphrase of 17080/27 from Admiral Miles for ADVENTURE. (D.O.D. H. 1620B/28 to C. in C. H.F).

CANTON. HAVELOCK. HARVESTER. Two destroyers will be sailing from Iceland to meet you in position R 056° 36' N. 023° 56' W. at 0600Z/3 and will escort you to Clyde. If you cannot arrive at this position report approximate E.T.A. at position 'R' in order that R/V may be adjusted. (C. in C. W.A. 1855/28 to CANTON). Your 1258/28. HAVELOCK and HARVESTER are to meet CANTON in accordance with my 1855/28 and will then escort D.S.9 and STRATHEDEN in accordance with my 1858/28. (C. in C. W.A. 2201B/28 to A.C.I.C).

A.M.C. movements. Following forecast of movements of A.M.C's corrected to 28/7. (F.O.C.N.P. 2056/28).

Corvettes for Liverpool. Request you sail WALLFLOWER, CAMPANULA, ZINNIA, BLUEBELL, HYDRANGEA at best speed to Liverpool forthwith. Route. (C. in C. W.A. 2136B/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Operations.

Operation "Chess" V.A.Dover 0951B/28. See Operations Volume.

Operation F.B. C. in C. H.F. 0953B/28. See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Operation 'Nomad'. Carry out operation 'Nomad' tonight with 2 A/C 500 squadron. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 1245/28 to Adty.)

Gibraltar operational control. Your X453 8/7. Reply delayed. Propose Gibraltar under operational control this Headquarters from today. (H.Q.C.C. 1250/28 to Air Ministry).

Dunkirk bombed. Night 27/28 9 A/C bombed docks and shipping at Dunkirk. (H.Q.B.C. 1402 /28).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy. Convoy 'Season' is being attacked by enemy A/C. My position 128° Orfordness 7 point 7 miles. (TEHANA 2255B/28).

Mining.

ACHATES. (Mined 25/7) Your 1525B/27. Salvage officer proceeding with necessary material. At present it appears situation can be dealt with by local resources. (A.C.I.C. 0958Z/28 to R.A.D).

Operation S.N. 210. Intend to carry out operation S.N. 210. as follows with PORT QUEBEC and SCOTT on 30/7. Details. Request air A/S escort from 0800 till last light July 30. (R.A.M. 1128B/28).

RUBIS. Ready to sail about 14/8. Propose she lay Mines as follows about 22/8. (F.O.S. 1209B/28) See Operations Volume.

River Crouch. Unexploded parachute mine reported in River Crouch 2=1/2 miles East of Burnham. One large crater in this position confirmed. (R.N.O. Burnham-on-Crouch 1449/28).

Harwich Area. S.A. Sweep detonated 2 green mines in (1) 51° 48.3'N. 1° 47.1'E. (2) 51° 55.3' N. 1° 43.2' E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2223B/28).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

RESISTANCE damaged. (A/P vessel) In collision 0215/28 with MENDIP of Portsmouth Command in approx. 50° 43' 12" N. 0° 12' 54" E. RESISTANCE leaking fore peak Not serious. (S.O.A.P. Newhaven 0930/28).

EREBUS. My 1020B/26. Sailing delayed by defects. (C. in C. Nore 1014B/28).

BRIGAND. BRIGAND's 1630/26. BRIGAND has sustained following damage. Repairs to enable ship to proceed to repair port can be effected in a few days. Request instructions. (A.C.O.S. 1037B/26).

Shipping and Convoys.

T.C.12. My 0137/25. Following are details of personnel on board the vessels of T.C.12. ORION, DUCHESS OF YORK, EMPRESS OF CANADA, STRATHMORE, STRATHNAVER. (D. of S.T. 0124B/28 to P.S.T.O. W. Scotland, etc.).

Russian Ships. Pass to N.C.S.O.s. My 2311/16. Russian ships which are of suitable speed and make applications are to be accepted for convoy. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1015B/28 to C. in C.'s, etc.)

East Coast. Forecast of convoy sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1100/28) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.
CAIRO.
LONDON.
EDINBURGH. On completion of present duty CAIRO is to remain at Barry Roads and act as A/A escort to Bristol Channel section of W.S.10 leaving Barry Roads for Clyde at 0500B/30. On reaching Clyde CAIRO is to complete with fuel and be ready to leave with W.S.10 on 2/8 as ordered by C. in C. W.A. (C. in C. W.A., 1212B/28 to CAIRO).
LONDON is detailed as ocean escort for W.S.10. Propose F.O.C. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH should relieve LONDON in vicinity of the Azores. (C. in C. H.F. 1246B/28 to Admty.)
C. in C. H.F's 1246B/28. Concur. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to retain EDINBURGH at Gibraltar and sail her to relieve LONDON at R/V to be arranged by Admty. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1823B/28 to C. in C. H.F, F.O.C.N.A).

/O.N.2.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

O.N.2.
S.D.9.
STRATHEDEN.

Your 1545B/27 and your 0855B/28 not to Admty., and Admty. 1402B/26. HAVELOCK and HARVESTER to sail for U.K. 1/8. Propose (1) HESPERUS and RESTIGOUCHE join O.N. 2 for which only CHAMBLEY is otherwise available. (ii) ASSINIBOINE and RIPLEY escort STRATHEDEN to destination from Iceland R/V. (iii) HAVELOCK and HARVESTER to act as additional escort for RAMILLIES and S.D.9. (A.C.I.C., 1258/28 to C. in C. W.A).

Firing by M/V's.

In spite of local orders which have been circulated, firing still persists by merchant vessels in Loch Ewe to danger of personnel ashore. Request that all N.C.S. and D.E.M.S. officers in other ports be asked to impress this on Masters of ships bound for Loch Ewe. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1837B/28 to Admty.)

Ships in Spanish or Portuguese Ports.

Instructions in event of war with Spain or Portugal. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1913B/28 to B.C., Lisbon). See Lion Copy.

W.S.8C.

Cancel D.C.O. 2135B/25. Movements of Ships altered (details). Embarkation R.M. Bdes etc. begins a.m./4. Agree by D. of M. and Commander 110 Force. (D.C.O., 1946B/28 to V.A.C.T.C). A.M. 2003B/26. Convoy W.S.8C will leave the Clyde for Scapa (date) E.T.A. (date). Convoy will consist of 20 ships. H.M.S. KARAGA, HYDRA, ROYAL SCOTSMAN, ULSTERMONARCH, QUEEN EMMA, MISOA, BACHAQUERO, PRINCE CHARLES, S.S. WINCHESTER CASTLE, BATORY, NARKUNDA, ORMONDE, MACHARDA, DUNEDIN STAR, CLAN MACDONALD, R.F.A DEWDALE and ENNERDALE. Commodore of Convoy will be Vice Adm. M.L. Goldsmith in NARKUNDA. Escort will be provided by 8 destroyers. (Instructions. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2226B/28 to C. in C. W,A., C. in C. H.F. etc.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

26.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.G.69. destroyers, Force H.

Your 2051B/27.(O.G.69 still being shadowed by U Boat.) One Catalina will be with Convoy all day 28th. FAULKNOR, FORESTER, and FURY are being (?) sailed at 0600/28 to join Convoy daylight/29. This leaves no escort for Force H after Convoy and RENOWN sail P.M./28.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0128B/28, to Admty.)
Departure FAULKNOR FORESTER and FURY in accordance with my 0128.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0820B/28, to Admty.)

CLYDE.

Cancel my 1138B/27. Proceed on surface through 037° 00' 013° 00' to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0136B/28, to CLYDE.)
Your 0136B/28 understood. My P.C. and S., (? 039°) 30' 014° 13' 159° 15½ knots.
(CLYDE, 0212/28, to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 0136B. Adjust speed to R/V with M.L. 135 in position 350° Cape Spartel 10 miles at 1500A/29. T.B.R. arranged from 0001B/29.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1136B/28 to CLYDE.)

HAMLA.

My 1833B/21. (destination changed to Lisbon). HAMLA has arrived at Las Palmas. Request you will investigate.
(D.T.D. 1222B/28, to C. in C. W.A.)

CLAN MACNAUGHTON (O.G.68.)

Your 1046B/26. Request reason why she arrived Gibraltar and state E.T.D.
(D.T.D. 1231B/28, to F.O.C.N.A.)

BEVERLEY.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1322B/27. BEVERLEY may call at Ponta Delgada on 3/8 requiring about 200 tons oil fuel. Request necessary arrangements.
(D.O.D. (F) 1345B/28 to B.C. Ponta Delgada)

M.G.1.

I was not aware until my return to Gibraltar that families had been embarked in M.G.1. Although circumstances did not allow me to provide close cover I should certainly have sent a destroyer to escort each group had I known of situation.
(S.O. Force H., 1414B/28, to V.A. Malta.)

/LEESEE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LEESEE. (German.)

With about 4000 tons Iron Ore, ready to sail evening tide/28 probable (? destination) Bayonne.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1650/28 to D.N.I.)

H.G.69. escorts.

Departures BIDEFORD Escorting H.G.69, BEVERLEY until 0700/2, proceeding to Ponta Delgada for fuel rejoining convoy 4/5/8 to limit of prudent endurance, thence Londonderry. Local escort SEVERN until reaching 43° thence to Gibraltar. DUNCAN until dark 2/8 thence to Gibraltar. JONQUIL, CORFOPSIS, SPIREA, STELLA CARINA, to limit of prudent endurance, thence to Gibraltar unless otherwise ordered.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1728B/28, to Admty., etc.)

Italian Repatriations.

Your 1219B/17. If these ships fuel at Las Palmas, care necessary to ensure no communication with shore and that oilers who supply them should not be able to receive or pass on information.
(2) Presume these ships will be routed to and from Gibraltar and will require Naval escort on N.A., Station when guard is not embarked.
(3) Presume there is no intention of supplying these ships with water or other supplies at Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2014B/28 to Admty.)

GUINE.

Boarded Portuguese GUINE in 032° 54' N., 038° 14' W., Cargo Navicerted but not declared German, Austrian and Italian refugees from Casablanca to New York. Master undertaken to call at Bermuda. E.T.A. 2/8. N P M 267 1200/28. Considerable boiler trouble.
(HILARY, 2120Z/28, to F.O.C.N.P.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

LIDVARD, (reported attacked 27/7.)

My 2035/27. (Not to Admiralty (see 2117/27.))
If you are in superior force and LIDVARD is in hands of French and C.O. escort refused to allow ship to proceed as directed LIDVARD is to be ordered to proceed and boarded if necessary.
If ship is in control French armed guard, fire may be opened on her as necessary to bring ship to and force obedience. If escorting ship attempts to prevent ship being sent or requisitioned force may be employed to compel them to cease intervening. In these circumstances English should not fire first shot against escort.
(C. in C. S.A., 0015N/28, to BRIDGEWATER, WRESTLER, HIGHLANDER.
Have intercepted LIDVARD in 010° 44' N., 017° 26' W., un-accompanied, am escorting to Freetown.
(HIGHLANDER, 0830Z/28, to C. in C.S.A.)

EDITH GERMAINE (intercepted 27/7.)

My position at 0945Z (? 013°) 50' N., 017° 48' W., having shadowed EDITH GERMAINE throughout the night, (? closed) and ascertained vessel was bound for Dakar. Allowed to proceed.
GARDENIA, AMARANTHUS proceeding Bathurst in accordance with C. in C.'s 1643N/24.
(N.T. in W.R.) (GARDENIA, 0855N/28, to C. in C. S.A.)

HOLMSIDE NIKOKLIS.

Overdue shipping. Serial number 15, 1753/14, HOLMSIDE, NIKOKLIS (Greek) not arrived.
(S.O.I., Freetown, 0900N/28, to Admty.)

U.S. Ships.

Re routes to Capetown. (D.T.D., 1532B/28.)
See Lion Copy.

Japanese Ships.

Local agents report that Japanese are trying to arrange fuel here for TOSAN MARU, TOKAI MARU, NANA MARU. None will be supplied in Montevideo.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 1553Z/28, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S., of enemy, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 merchant vessels, GKYB 0151 (?150) 8.
(Med. A/C duty. X, 0745/28, to Group H Q Middle East) W.D. Note.- Position indecipherable.
A/C report 0730/28/2 merchant ships 036° 27' 011° 06' 080° 9knots. 0745, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 merchant ships, 037° 01' 011° 51' 155° 8 knots 0750, 5 merchant ships, 035° 57' 011° 48' 010° 10 knots.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 0945/28, to S/M's, Malta Force.)

Port Said Raid.

Op. Sum. No.413.
My A.887, 27/7, para 1. About 8 enemy A/C, dropped bombs off Port Said Harbour on night of 26/27. Only one aircraft came inland and dropped bombs 1000 yards east of Kantara, no damage or casualties.

Benghazi bombed.

Night 26/27. 5 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi docks. Bombs fell on Juliana Point and at base of Cathedral Mole, causing one explosion.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 0951/28.)

PARTHIAN.

My 1057B/26 and Capt. (S) 1's 1042C/27. Now expect you to arrive a.m./30.
(S.O.(S)Malta, 1005B/28. to PARTHIAN.)

Station Boundaries.

In view of necessity for S.N.O. Red Sea to control shipping movements and anchorages in Gulf of Suez I have agreed with C. in C. East Indies that as a temporary measure the dividing line between our stations should be 026° 30' N. Change to come into force as from 0001/30.
(C. in C. Med., 1022C/28, to Admty.)

ATLAS.

Arrived 27/7.

OTTO LEONHARDT (German.)

Left 26/7 unknown destination in ballast.
(Cartagena 1115/28 to M. of W.T.)

/Operation...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Operation "Substance".

Reply to Admty., 1255B/27. (S.O. Force H., 1131B/28.)
See Lion Copy.

Suez Canal Mines.

C. in C. Med's., 1850/25. The 12 mines (? remaining) in Canal and approaches and which were reputed as laid during raids July 10, 12, 14, and 16 and now considered dud or U.X.B.'s. Passage of HOBART, KIPLING had to be postponed from P.M./13 to A.M./14 due to breakdown of Hopper 33.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1151C/28, to Admty.)

Syrian Campaign.

Continuation my O/85878 (2337/27.)
Acknowledgement should be paid to R.A.F., for valuable co-operation and assistance both to Navy and Land Forces. It will be realised that Vichy French object to use of word Armistice.
(C. in C. M.E., 1240/28 to W.O.)
Re: information for speech by Prime Minister.
(C. in C. Med., 1310C/28 to Admty.)

UPRIGHT. Floating Dock torpedoed, 24/7.

Reports at 0820/23 sighted 2 small west-bound M/Vs., escorted by A.M.C. Convoy passed out of range. At 1130/24 sighted floating dock in tow of 2 ocean tugs escorted by 1 destroyer and 2 torpedo boats, the dock was rounding Spartevento Cape westbound 1500 yards from coast. 1237 fired salvo, one tube misfired. Two hits, followed immediately by counter attack of 51 D/Cs. These though quite accurate appeared small and ineffective. Chief danger lay in maintaining trim in fresh water layers encountered at depths below 100 feet.
After conclusion "Substance", UPRIGHT returned to remedy multifarious small defects to hull and engines.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1340B/28, to UPRIGHT.)

Malta Supplies in "Substance".

Following addressed to Admiralty, War Office, Air Ministry, S. of S., for Colonies and D. of S.T. Appreciation to all who planned and organized convoy, of extreme importance in maintaining this fortress.
(Govr., Malta, 1630B/28, to Admty.)

/Italian.....

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Italian Routes.

Charts captured from Italian M A S 452 show no difference to those found in Italian Submarine DURBO. They are apparently in possession of Q B B 117 which will now be altered. Additional Italian routes North of Messina (details).
(S. O.(I) Malta, 1651B/28, to Admty.)

UTMOST UNIQUE.

Since URGE and UPRIGHT have left you may carry out shore operations in their respective areas if preferred.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1655B/28, to UTMOST, UNIQUE.)

Malta Raid.

Night 27/28. 3 aircraft over. Near miss army gun set. A.A. guns damaged.

Schooner attacked. Syracuse,etc., attacked.

Offensive 28/7. 3 Blenheims sailed locate 2 unescorted M/Vs, attacked laden Schooner scoring 2 direct hits shown sinking in photos. 8 Beaufighters attacked with cannon and machine gun aircraft at Syracuse, Catania, Marsala and Bohrizzo landing ground 7 miles south of Trapani.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1700/28.)

Enemy M/V.

P.C. and S., of enemy 1 M/V. Turk flag XGDC 0850 290° 12.
(Med. A/C Duty C, 1710/28, to Group H.Q., Middle East.) W.D. Note:- Position indecipherable.

Suez Canal. Raid 27/7.

My 1103/27 ref. C.A.F.O., 587/40. (A) 27/7 calm (?clear) (B) Independent high flying about 8 bombers no moon (C) H/E bombs (D) Six bombs k.m., 35,500 yards East of Canal (E) No damage or casualties (F) Fighter patrol and searchlight, no interception. (K) Only one enemy A/C over N. section Canal.
(S.B.N.O., Suez, 1729C/28, to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

E/B raid.....

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

E/B raid on Malta 26/7.

Your 1054/28. (Not circulated, requesting amplification of para. "E" of V.A.Malta's 1251B/27.)
Entrances must be obstructed by at least 2 continuous lines of nets to prevent striking force having a clear passage round A.T.Baffles after passing through hole blown for them in the A.B.Boom.
(V.A.Malta, 1810B/28, to F.O.C.N.A.)

Roumanian Ship.

My memo. S.O.27 para. 5. Names of Italian ships expected to sail 29th. First name Roumanian ship ready to sail this week end.
(Capt. S.1, 1933C/28, to THRASHER.)
THRASHER has reported she has taken off 78 British soldiers from Crete.
(D.S., 695, 29/7.)

Turkey.

Interview with Marshal Chakmak by Adm. Kelly.
(N.A. Angora, 1937C/28, to C. in C. Med.)
See Lion Copy.

GEORGIOS AVEROFF (Greek.)

Your 1547/26 Adm. Sakellariou has discussed matter with me and I have informed C. in C. E.I., accordingly. Agreed it is desirable to give GEORGIOS AVEROFF early employment if at all practicable.
(C. in C. Med., 1946C/28, to Admty.)

UPHOLDER Italian Cr. Torpedoed.

One cruiser one destroyer P.C. & S., of enemy 038° 04' 011° 57' 280° 28. One Italian Cruiser EMANUELE FILIBERTO DUCA D'AOSTA class, cruiser hit twice. One torpedo remaining. Intend remaining on patrol unless otherwise ordered.
(UPHOLDER, 1952B/28, to S.O.(S) Malta.)

DUQUESNE (French) signal traffic.

Your 2013/26. Have already had these allegations represented to me. Constant watch is kept during day and a searching watch at night on this traffic. Considered most signals are intercepted and all are signalled to London where contents are presumably investigated as this cannot be done here.

/Admiralty....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

DUQUESNE (French) signal traffic. Contd.

Admiralty therefore, is in a better position to say if the messages are harmless. No evidence here of DUQUESNE communicating direct to Dakar, but normal traffic for Toulon contains routeing instructions, and possible signals may be directed to be retransmitted to Dakar. Difficult to see why Adm. Godfroy should wish to work Dakar which would be a breach of agreement which he has so far meticulously kept when he could leave it to Toulon to pass on messages. (C. in C. Med., 1955C/28, to Admty.)

AUCKLAND (sunk, A/C 24/6.)

A.F.O. 2551/40. I am satisfied that circumstances attending loss of AUCKLAND do not necessitate a Board of Enquiry being held. (C. in C. Med., 2113C/28, to Admty.)

Suez Canal.

Re control and administration of Canal Company. (Head of M., 2231 B/28 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

East Indies.

Proposed attack on S/M. Djibouti.

C. in C. E.I., 0002/28 to Mid East, and 0004Z/28 to Admty. (See Lion Copy, 27/7.)

Air attack Docks.

My 0502/19/6 and your 2157/26/6, request following information concerning method of attack, torpedo carrying aircraft against docks etc. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 0650Z/28 to Admty., C. in C.E.I.)

W.S.10. W.S.11.

Are any ships in W.S.10 or W.S.11 proceeding to India or Basra? Request particulars. (S.S.T.O., India, 1113Z/28, to D. of S.T.)

Japanese Ships.

HAVANA MARU now loading cargo of 6000 tons has requested permission to cease unloading in order that immediate clearance to Japan may be obtained. Navicert not granted until balance of 4,000 tons is discharged. (MELBOURNE MARU now 24 hours overdue. (S.O.I., Bombay, 1115Z/28, to C. in C. E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.7.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DUPLEIX.	Arrived 27/7.	
BOUGAINVILLE.	Left 28/7, Haiphong.	(Act. Consul-Gen., Saigon, 0830Z/28 to M. of W.T.)
CAP TOURANE	Left 28/7, Haiphong.	
GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER. (French.)	Left 28/7, Singapore.	

Far East Trade. — Admty., 1859/6. Route via Torres Strait is now desirable whenever possible. (C. in C. China, 0914Z/28, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ISIS. — Your 1709B/24. Can be taken in hand here end of August. (A.S., Singapore, 0916Z/28, to Admty.)

Pacific Routes. — Your 1626/20 and my 0336/27. N.C.O. Batavia reports PEISANDER and PROMETHEUS were routed to Panama via Thursday Island and Brisbane for bunkers. Owners apparently expressed wish for vessels to be routed via Honolulu but N.C.S.O., considered undesirable to route through Japanese Mandated Islands. Southern route is now generally adopted by Dutch and ourselves, being less exposed to German raiders and possible Japanese interference. (C. in C. China, 0916Z/28, to Admty.)

D'ARTAGNAN (French.) — Departure Manila. (Shanghai, 2353Z/28, to D. of S.T.)

America & West Indies.

U.S. Task Force 16. — Following received from OPNAV for action. (As Adty.,1905B/24 except that only 5 destroyers are envisaged - see Operations Volume 24/7.) (Spenavo, No. T.O.O./28 to Admty.)

FORT LAMY. French. — St. Thomas V.I., No. T.O.O./28, Arrived 26/7.

/WOLFE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

WOLFE. Bermuda departure WOLFE in accordance with my 1003 Q/25. E.T.A., 1600 P/30.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 10030/28, to Admty., etc.)

H.X.141. Escorts. HX 141 ocean escort MONTCLARE proceeding Iceland with personnel, provisions, and timber, then returning Halifax. A/S escort to Western R/V, NANAIMO and TRAIL, thence proceeding St. John's N.F., and ORILLIA to eastern R/V, thence proceeding (?Iceland).
(B.S.O., 1136P/28 to Admty., etc.)

PRINCE ROBERT. Is proceeding to Easter Island to investigate a report that a damaged raider is there. E.T.A., 8/8. PRINCE ROBERT will then proceed to Valparaiso arriving about 15/8. Request you will notify Chilean authorities of these visits and arrange for supply of fuel at Valparaiso.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 12020/28, to N.A., Santiago de Chile.)
N.B. Wellington's 1200M/27. B.F.A., Santiago de Chile has been requested to arrange fuel at Valparaiso about 15/8. If investigation of Easter Island is blank you should not break W/T silence to report your arrival.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 12420/28 to PRINCE ROBERT.)

Belle Isle Patrol. In view of ice conditions have temporarily withdrawn Belle Isle Patrol. Patrol will be re-established as soon as conditions permit.
(C.C.N.F., 1207Z/28, to Admty., etc.)

Liaison. C.N.O., has concurred in nomination of Comdr., Parry as Liaison Officer with U.S.Pacific Fleet.
(N.A. Washington 1213R/28.)

AMERICANO. Italian. AMERICANO renamed TUXPAM Mexican flag sailed Tampico for Puerto Mexico 25/7.
(S.O.I., Jamaica, 1316R/28, to Admty.,etc.)

BULOLO. B.A.R.M.'s 1218R/26. Request you will take necessary action.
(D.O.D.(F) 1515B/28 to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A.)

/Admty.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

BULOLO. Contd.

Admty., 1515B/28. Request you will sail BULOLO direct for Bermuda. Intend sail ship to Freetown on completion of five days working up. (S.O.(I) Bermuda 22090/28 to B.A.R.M.)

F.C. and C.A.M. Ships.

My 1516B/27. Add:- Request you will inform Commodore concerned that when a Fighter Catapult ship is in the same convoy as a C.A.M. ship (A), these ships should be stationed within V/S touch of each other, and (B) C.O., of the Fighter Catapult ship should be authorised to vary the position of the C.A.M. ship subject to concurrence of Commodore.
(D.T.D., 1646B/28, to N.C.S.O.'s Sydney C.B., etc.)

New Zealand.

PRINCE ROBERT.

My 1200M/27. PRINCE ROBERT E.T.A., (a) P.M./5 W.D. (b) A.M./8 W D. Route Great Circle direct, speed 15.5 knots. Fuel required Valparaiso 1300 tons.
(N.Z.N.B., 1155M/28 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Auckland departure PRINCE ROBERT for Easter Island.
(S.O.I. Wellington, 1630M/28 to Admty., etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

IDA KNUDSEN. (torpedoed 21/7.)

Further to my 1330/27 Master IDA KNUDSEN, reports that vessel was attacked by two submarines, nationality unknown, six torpedoes fired, four striking vessel. Position where ship was attacked was that given to Master at Trinidad for escorting but this was not sighted. About 30 miles from R/V position large Cargo Steamer observed standing by which Master now presumed must have been supply ship for these submarines.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1200/28, to Admty.)

LAPLAND
ERATO.

British, 1330 tons, London to Lisbon, torpedoed at 2145/28 about 350 miles N.W. of Cape St. Vincent. Third ship from Convoy O.G.69 known to have been sunk. Feared that a fourth ship, possibly British ERATO, 1335 tons, was also torpedoed. (D.S. 693, 29/7.)

RIO AZUL (torpedoed 29/6.)

British, 4088 tons, now known torpedoed 29/6, and presumed sunk. 9 survivors picked up by ESPERANCE BAY. Was bound from Pepel to Middlesbrough in S.L.78 with iron ore. This is the 7th ship known to have been torpedoed and sunk in this convoy.

Submarines Reported.

2135 G.M.T/27.

At 2135 G.M.T./27 Italian U Boats estimated 037° 00' N., 025° 50' W., to 027° 00' W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0837/28, to N.A.S.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1507B/28.)

O.G.69.

There are indications that Italian U-Boat in vicinity of Cape St. Vincent received instructions to intercept O.G.69.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1216B/28, to Capt. D.8.)

21/7.

Your 0948B/28, (1) An Icelander claimed to have seen top of S/M conning tower from a boat A.M./21. Original report of this was of a metal object in water and disturbance near it. A/S trawlers and A/C searched the area and found nothing, while (ii) another Icelander claims to have seen P/S., in same vicinity at 2300/21, distance 1000 yards. Since then no further reports received. Reports of this nature very frequent and are reported whenever considered possible S/M present.
(A.C.I.C. 2136/28, to C. in C. H.F.)

/1930 G.M.T...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

28.7.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Submarines Reported. Contd.

1930 G.M.T. Following bearings of Italian U-Boat, call sign 11 U, obtained at 1930/28 G.M.T. Estimated position of U-Boat 41° N., 18° W. Position is an indication of the area only. (D.D.I.C. 22208/28.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The 17th M.L. Flotilla sailed for Gibraltar today escorted by 2 A/S Trawlers.

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy F.S.54 reported being bombed at 2257 in 55° 4' N. 1° 13' W; Tanker ADAMS BECK was sunk.

Yarmouth was bombed last night. No damage was caused.

Mining.

Ten aircraft laid mines last night in the Fehmarn Channel, 8 in Kiel Harbour and 5 in Langeland Belt.

Accoustic and magnetic mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary yesterday and today.

Mediterranean.

Five Swordfish despatched from Malta last night to attack a southbound convoy off Pantellaria, had to return owing to overheated engines.

Western Desert. 9 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air attack on Tobruk convoy.

A convoy of lighters proceeding to Tobruk covered by air patrols was attacked this evening by a large number of enemy bombers escorted by fighters. Our fighters intercepted the enemy and it is thought that 6 of the enemy were destroyed. One lighter was sunk and two of our fighters are missing.

Tobruk was shelled today and on Sunday last. Administrative buildings and pumping stations were hit.

China.

The Japanese have complained of shots being fired and patrol vessels approaching close to their submarines patrolling off Hong Kong. The necessity for close examination of submarines, to ensure that they are not hostile vessels using the Japanese flag and the consequent risk run if Japanese S/Ms insist on patrolling close to Hong Kong, has been pointed out to the Ministry of Marine without effect. N.A. Tokyo considers that the Ministry is afraid to interfere with the dispositions adopted by their C. in C. on the spot.

America and West Indies.

3rd B.S.

A.C.N.S(H) 1524B/29 contains a decision on the future employment of the 3rd B.S.

U-Boat Campaign.

It is reported that S.S. SHAHRISTAN was torpedoed at 2335 G.M.T. today in approx. 35° 19' N. 20° 55' W.

/O.G.69 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign. - contd.

0.C.69. JASMINE reported at 1930 that 3 ships of the convoy were in company. This leaves a total of 10 ships which cannot yet be accounted for.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

GUINE. HILARY has ordered Protuguese GUINE from Casablanca to New York with enemy refugees to call Bermuda. E.T.A. 2/8. (F.O.C.N.P.0946B/29)

Unreliability of T.L.C's. C. in C. Rosyth's 1731/28. Propose each T.L.C. carries out a comprehensive full power trial in vicinity of builders works prior to sailing. (A.S.C.B.S.1100/29.)

HOXA. Your 1155/24. As HOXA is urgently required abroad, she should be sailed forthwith to Tobermory to complete working up. (A.C.N.S.H. 1727B/29.)

RAMILLIES. RAMILLIES is to return to U.K. as soon as possible to be taken in hand for :-
(a) Fitting of Oerlikon guns.
(b) Fitting of R.D/F.
(c) Urgent defects.
(d) Any A's and A's which can be completed within the time required for (b) above.
A.C.I.S. is requested to sail her as soon as escort is available for Liverpool. C. in C.W.A. is requested to provide necessary escort. (D.O.D.H. 1815B/29)

CANADIA. Swedish S.S. CANADIA expected sailing Gothenburg a.m./29th routed through Skopen Fjord to South America. No action to be taken by MINERVE except remain unseen if this ship is sighted. (A.C.O.S. 2352/29 to MINERVE.)

Co-operation with Russia.

White Sea and Kola Inlet. In order to safeguard shipping taking supplies from U.K. to North Russia it is necessary for the Russians to maintain and operate an adequate minesweeping force in the White Sea and Kola Inlet areas.
2. It is requested that you will arrange this and report date by which sweeping operations will be in progress, and numbers and types of sweepers employed. (1st S.L. 1232B/29 to N.A. Moscow.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

O.B.V's. The following programme is intended for O.B.V's in the Western Patrol. (D.O.D.F.0131B/29.)

17th M.L.F. for Gibraltar. Intend sailing 17th M.L.F. escorted by SOUTHERN PRIDE and SOUTHERN GEM at 1500B today for Gibraltar. Route in accordance with C. in C.W.A. 1446B/26/6. Date of arrival 5/8. (Capt.D. Londonderry 0926B/29.)
My 0926B/29. Sailed 17th M.L. Flotilla comprising M.L's 266, 261, 263, 272, 256, 274, 242 and 265 escorted by SOUTHERN PRIDE and SOUTHERN GEM. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1525B/29.)

CANADIA. (Swedish) Expected to leave Gothenburg a.m. today for South America and has been instructed to proceed by the following route to Skopen Fjord and thence to destination.
2. Ship should not be molested, but should be stopped and examined in Skopen Fjord. (D.O.D.H. 1142B/29.)

ESPERANCE BAY. MALAYA. Admty. 1147B/25, 1226B/28 and C. in C. Nore 1714/28. Propose to employ WORCESTER and QUORN as escort for ESPERANCE BAY from Firth of Forth to London. Escort could R/V with her off May Island. C. in C.H.F. requested to inform me of E.T.A. of these ships at May Island as soon as it is known. (C. in C. Rosyth 1253/29.)
Your 1253B/29. Suitable times of arrival at Thames Gate occur as follows. Of these dates 1200/5/8 seems the most suitable as available minesweeping forces can concentrate on passage of ESPERANCE BAY. It is assumed that this will entail sailing from Rosyth on 3/8 in which case it is proposed to order WORCESTER and QUORN to escort EREBUS to Scapa proceeding to Rosyth on completion to await sailing of ESPERANCE BAY. (C. in C. Nore 2200B/29 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
MALAYA is to take ESPERANCE BAY under his orders and proceed passing Hoxa Boom at 2130/30 to Rosyth. R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to provide A/S screen of 5 destroyers. (C. in C.H.F. 2212B/29 to MALAYA.)

KOS IX. Your 1436B/27. KOS IX should be sailed in convoy O.S.2 to Freetown for onward routeing to Mediterranean via Cape. Vessel should break off to oil at Ponta Delgada and at Bathurst also if necessary. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1648/29 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

/CANTON .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

CANTON. Your 1855/28. E.T.A. position "R" at 1800Z/3rd. CANTON 1730Z/29 to C. in C.W.A.)

Operations.

Operation F.B. NIGERIA, AURORA, TARTAR, PUNJABI, ANTHONY entered Seidis Fjord a.m./29. (A.C.I.C.1110/29)
Sailed NIGERIA, AURORA, (?TARTAR) PUNJABI from Seidis Fjord 1115Z/29. (A.C.I.C. 1624/29.)

Dover Patrols. Patrol tonight 4 Motor Launches sweeping ahead to South West Gate Buoy then 5 miles to seaward to A.M.Q.Z. S.238. 3 Motor Launches between No.8 and east Varne Buoy. 2 Trawlers on O.D.1 (One). 2 drifters off North Foreland.
(N.O.I.C. Dover 1628B/29.)

Operation "Chess". This was a small R/C for information and possibly a prisoner. The patrol landed at 0154/27 on French coast and found the enemy alert. After testing the wire and putting a M.G. out of action patrol re-embarked being about 20 minutes ashore. Unfortunately one Naval Officer and one Naval rating were killed in the A.L.C. when beached (D.C.O. 1813B/29 to Adty.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. A/S patrol in exercise area west of Orkneys is being flown by 18 group from 0700/29 to 1000/29. (C. in C. Rosyth 0655/29.)
A/S patrol by 18 Group in exercise area West of Orkneys now in operation and will be continued until 0400/30. (C. in C. Rosyth 1316/29.)
VOE A. and B. now in operation until further orders. (C. in C. Rosyth 1414/29.)
My 1414/29. A/C returned owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 1512/29.)

Bombing operations. Day 28/7. All operations were cancelled owing to weather.
Night 28/29. Mining successfully carried out. Some further reports still outstanding. All other operations cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1550/29.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth bombed. Great Yarmouth bombed night 28/29/7. (A) to (D) Nil. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0753B/29.)

STRATHLOCHY abandoned on 28/7. (Trawler) N.O.I.C. Faroes 2242B/27. In company with Trawler LOCH WASDALE was attacked with 6 bombs in 180' at 1710/28. N.W. of Rora Head Orkney by JU.88 and 2 bombs 4 feet long fell on board but failed to explode. Ship badly damaged by near miss Trawler abandoned and not seen to sink. Total crew of eleven brought to Scrabster by LOCH WASDALE. Aircraft sighted at ½ mile but fire not opened until after attack. Guns jammed. (A.C.O.S.1525/29.)
STRATHLOCHY abandoned at 1710/28 in about 061° 44' N. 005° 12' W. Request aircraft to search in order that trawler may be sent from Faroes to tow into port. (A.C.O.S. 1554B/29 to 18 Group.)

A/C over Scapa Flow. At 1542 enemy A/C. May have seen into Flow. (A.C.O.S. 1757/29.)

At 1855 unidentified A/C at 20,000 feet crossed Flow, 3 gun sights identified aircraft as JU 88 and fired 17 rounds at visual target. Fighters from Skeabrae were detailed but failed to intercept. (A.C.O.S. 2100/29.)

Convoy F.S.54. Help. 55° 4' N. 1° 13' W. (WHADDON 2255/29.)
Enemy is bombing convoy. (WHADDON 2257/29.)

Mining.

RUBIS. F.O.(S) 1209B/28. Concur. (C. in C.H.F.0952B/29)

Operation NL.16. My 1038B/28 and 2150B/28. This operation will be carried out tonight weather permitting. (V.A. Dover 1030B/29 and 1032B/29.)
Three M.L.'s leave Dover at 0001/30 to operate off Calais then to patrol between number 8 and East Varne Buoys till daylight. (V.A. Dover 1516B/29.)

Operation PW.16. Weather permitting PW.16 will be carried out tonight by M.T.B. 45, 44 and 47. (C. in C. Nore, 1250B/29.)
My 1250B/ PW.16 postponed owing to weather. (C. in C. Nore. 1550B/29.)

/Harwich .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Harwich area.	2 Mines detonated by S.A. Gear at 1424/28 and 1550/28 respectively. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1312/29.)
Thames Estuary.	L.L. and S.A. searching sweep of Q.Z.F.34 was carried out today. 2 acoustic and 5 magnetic mines detonated. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1705/29.)
57th M/S Group for Portland.	In view of recent minelaying in English Channel request you will sail 57th M/S trawler group from Ardrossan to Portland. (A.C.N.S.H. 2005B/29.)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats.	Be prepared for E-Boat activities in Dover area. (N.O.I.C. Dover 1800B/29.)
M.V's off Iceland.	2 Merchant vessels off Raufar Hofn 066° 28' N. 016° W. at 1500 proceeding North Westerly. Have no knowledge of British or Allied ships in this vicinity. (A.C.I.C. 1903/29.)

Technical

Oiling at sea.	N.S.O. Greenock's 1120B/26. Request you arrange following exercise with MONTCALM. (V.A.C.T.C. 2324B/29 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Casualties and Defects.

DORSETSHIRE. Suspected sabotage.	C.B.04968 paragraph 7. Condition of Types 284 and 285 indicates probable sabotage. Particulars. (DORSETSHIRE 1653B/29.)
EMPIRE ADVOCATE.	Request you sail SALVONIA to assist S.S. EMPIRE ADVOCATE anchored with engine trouble in 097°. Mew Island Light 1 mile and instruct her to tow ship to Bangor Bay. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2203/29 to N.O.I.C. Campeltown.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S.10
JUPITER. JUPITER is required to sail with W.S.10. To be detached to fuel at Ponta Delgada, rejoining convoy with as little delay as possible. On departure of W.S.10 from Freetown, JUPITER is to assist with A/S escort through S/M area and is then to proceed independently at best speed to Suez. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0107B/29 to C. in C.W.A., C. in C.H.F. etc.)

Finnish Ships. (C. in C.S.A.0303N/29.) See South Atlantic.

W.N.Convoys. Intend to adopt following form of Convoy pre-sailing signal. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1200B/29 to C. in C.W.A.) See Summaries Folder.

ROYAL ULSTERMAN. Requested you make arrangements in conjunction with V.A.C.T.C. to inspect ROYAL ULSTERMAN with a view to determining whether bren-carriers or light tanks (7 tons) can be carried on the upper deck and hoisted over the side. (Admty. 1853B/29 to V.A.C.T.C. for S.N.O.L. Inveraray.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. (D.D.I.C.1658B/29) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Substance" — Objection to certain Press cables from accredited correspondents. (D.P.D. 0033B/29 to S.O. Force H.)

BRECONSHIRE. AMERIKA. — Your 1634B/26 and C. in C.W.A. 2136B/28. Intend sailing BRECONSHIRE with corvettes. AMERIKA not ready. (F.O.C.N.A.0948B/29.)

CLAN MACNAUGHTON. — Your 1251B/28. Engine defects. Intend sailing escorted to Freetown for cluster routeing with SETTLER. (F.O.C.N.A. 1054B/29.)

CARA. ALHAMA. — My 1155/25. Both ships arrived Lisbon. (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1057A/29.)

WISHART. LAURELWOOD. — Arrival WISHART with LAURELWOOD. (F.O.C.N.A. 1128B/29.)

Ships carrying Pyrites. — Your 2006B/27. Essential this information should reach Gibraltar at least 24 hours before ships sail in order that interception may be arranged. A delay of 24 hours at least may be expected between time of despatching a telegram in Huelva and its receipt in Gibraltar. Request they be prefixed immediate. (C.C.S.O. Gib. 1138/29 to Admty.)

LORRAIN. (French) — July 28 arrival. (? Capetown-Gibraltar, 1239B/29 to M. of W.T.)

/BRITTANIA .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

BRITANNIA. (Attacked by Raider 25/3.)	Your 2230/27. ARDEOLA will embark personnel for Gibraltar. (F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 1247/29 to Consul, Teneriffe.)
FAULKNOR. FURY. FORESTER.	Your 0004B/29 (ships torpedoed, see U-Boat Campaign) FAULKNOR, FURY, FORESTER have been recalled to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A.1320B/29 to JASMINE.)
BRECONSHIRE.	Departures BRECONSHIRE escorted by WALLFLOWER, ZINNIA, BLUEBELL, CAMPANULA, HYDRANGEA, in accordance with C. in C. W.A's 2136B/28. (F.O.C.N.A. 1330B/29 to Admty. etc.)
EDINBURGH. Operation "Style".	Your 1823/28. (EDINBURGH to escort W.S.10) Can EDINBURGH take part in "Style". (S.O. Force H. 1359B/29 to Admty.) Your 1359B/29. No. (1st S.L. 1618B/29 to S.O. Force H.) My 1359/29. If approved intend EDINBURGH should replace ARETHUSA, observing latter cannot exceed 28 knots with possibility of run. (S.O. Force H. 1605A/29 to Admty.) Your 1603/29. EDINBURGH must not be used. (1st S.L. 1956B/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Force H. Aircraft.	State of serviceability of aircraft in ARK ROYAL, operation "Style", Fulmars 17/4, Swordfish 22/1. Request when further supply of Fulmars and Swordfish may be expected, observing 3 Fulmars, 5 Swordfish in reserve in dockyard lacking equipment. (S.O. Force H. 1505B/29 to Admty.)
Operation "Style".	My 1406B/28. Do not cross 001° E. before 0100B/1. Force H. leaves Gibraltar a.m./30 for operations in Western Mediterranean N.E. of Malta. 3 Cruisers leave Gibraltar a.m./31 for Malta proceeding to S. of you. T.B.R. arranged from 007° E. (F.O.C.N.A.1706B/29 to OLYMPUS.)

/IDA KNUDSEN .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

IDA KNUDSEN. (Torpedoed 21/7.) Request following information re IDA KNUDSEN may be signalled.
(a) Was signal received from ship on crossing 25° W. and/or 15° W.
(b) How often was your 1253/18 broadcast giving her diversion.
(c) What escort was detailed and was a not met signal made.
British Consul Las Palmas 1300/28 refers.
Request all signals received or sent regarding tankers and their escorts may be repeated to Admty., especially your 2000 daily situation report. (D.T.D.1721B/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

A/C attack on P/boat. 1 Catalina on O.C.69 on 28/7 reports having attacked P/boat in 40° (32(02?))' N. 15° 26' W. at 1830/28/7, 2 - 500 lb R/S bombs dropped from (?400(4000)) feet owing to low cloud base at the time. Both bombs failed to explode. Both aircraft recalled to base by dusk owing to weather conditions. (200 Group 1830/29)

ATLAS.(German) Arrived Cartagena 27th.
OTTO LEON-HARDT. (German) Left Cartagena 26th.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1906B/29 to S/M O.24.)

Las Palmas
Santa Cruz
St.Vincent
Funchal Requesting information re defences. (D.N.I. 1915B/29 to Brit. Consuls concerned.)

BIDEFORD, BEVERLEY, DUNCAN. Pass to Commodore. To avoid U.Boat alter course forthwith for position 54° 20' N. 12° 00' W. thence to "M" omitting "L".
(D.T.D.2240/29 to BIDEFORD, BEVERLEY, DUNCAN.)

South Atlantic.

BULOLO Your 1218/26. Request BULOLO be sailing to Bermuda. She can remain there and work up for 8 days subject C. in C. in C.A.W.I.concurrence.
(C. in C.S.A.0205N/29, 1243N/29 to B.A.R.M.)

/HERMES .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

HERMES, BABITONGA. My 2037N/17. 68 German prisoners HERMES and 41 ex BABITONGA sailed in CANTON on 24/7. One German left in Freetown with acute appendicitis. Request arrangements to receive these prisoners at CANTON's port of arrival in U.K. Prisoners from these ships are being kept separate while on board and recommend this should be followed on arrival U.K. (C. in C.S.A. 0223N/29 to Admty.)

Refits at Gibraltar. Request whether 6-monthly docking and annual refitting of 8 destroyers on S.A. Stn. can be undertaken at Gibraltar. In addition it may be desired to refit corvettes at Gibraltar up to 10 a year. (C. in C.S.A. 0301N/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Finnish Ships. N.C.SO's in neutral ports should instruct Finnish Ships which are willing to sail to proceed to British or U.S.A. ports. Ships in British Ports are being detained for present and should be informed instructions as to their future will be forthcoming. (C. in C.S.A. 0303N/29 to S.O.I's Capetown, Freetown.)

FORMIDABLE. Fuel consumption is about 70% increased due to foul bottom and trimming by stern. (Estimated endurance). Essential to fuel between Capetown and final destination. (FORMIDABLE 1135Z/29 to C. in C.S.A.)

MARISA THORDEN. (Finnish) R.A.S.A.D's 0047Z/27. Request if anything further is known of this transfer. I have no information. (C. in C.S.A. 1143N/29 to Admty.)

HIGHLANDER. My 1905/26. HIGHLANDER delayed will not now arrive at Gibraltar until a.m./5. (C. in C.S.A. 1445N/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PULASKI accommodation. Your 2245/23. S.S.T.O. Capetown with military embarkation and M.O. have inspected PULASKI and find that although ship is in many respects unsuitable for transporting so many men through the tropics there exists no adequate reason for reduction of numbers at Capetown.

/Minor .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

PULASKI accommodation contd.	Minor ameleorations of conditions on board can be achieved at Capetown. I have received a further protest from Capt. Allen against D. of S.T's 1453/23 but while agreeing that PULASKI is an undesirable ship for trooping in tropical waters I concur that vessel must complete present voyage with personnel now on board. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1534B/29 to C. in C.S.A.)
Air H.Q. Freetown.	Cancel my 1820/23. R.A.F. state they intend to form Air Headquarters in West Africa as soon as accommodation is available. Until Air H.Q. is established at Freetown, O.C.95 Sqdn. will be responsible for informing you of contemplated arrivals of R.A.F. Personnel. (D.O.D.(F) 1914B/29 to C. in C.S.A.)
S.L. and O.S. Convoys.	Co-ordination. (C. in C.S.A. 2231N/29 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
ERLANGEN. (intercepted 25/7.)	C.S.A.1 24 para.3 and my 1427Z/27. (a) 15 -officers 40 men rescued. 3 dead caused by NEWCASTLE's gunfire. (b) ship scuttled. (c) 2 lifeboats recovered, remainder sunk. (d) She made no W/T signal. (e) 2 salvoes of 6" fired from "A" turret to bring ship to. 2 short bursts of pom-pom fired in attempt to dissuade ship from manning boats. 2 short bursts of 0.5 inch machine gun fire in attempt to drive boat back to ship. (f) None. (NEWCASTLE 2131Z/29 to R.A.S.A.D.)
EDITH GERMAINE (intercepted by GARDENIA 27/7.)	Your 0808B/29 (W/R Message asking for 1643/24 not yet received) My 1643/24, being repeated, directed ships mentioned to proceed Bathurst, fuel, and be ready to sail to meet O.B.346. My 0913/28/7, not repeated Admiralty through error, informed GARDENIA and AMARANTHUS that EDITH GERMAINE was a naval vessel and should not be interfered with. This ship was intercepted and identified as a Naval vessel by CANTON on 8/7. (C. in C.S.A. 2305N/29 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Italian Cr. torpedoed by UPHOLDER. Your 1952/28. Grand news. Hope opportunity occurs for last torpedo. Leave patrol as ordered in my 1331B/27. (S.O.(S) Malta, 0105C/29 to UPHOLDER.)

Enemy Convoy. Four merchant ships, three destroyers, 038° 28' 012° 14' 030° 9 knots. (UPHOLDER, 0400B/29 to S.O.(S) Malta.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of enemy, One M/V., 10,000, one destroyer 157 Maritimo 15 330 12. (A/C P. Sqdn. 0843/29, 0910/29 to Hal Far.)

Tobruk mines. Following received from Tobruk (begins.) Your 1240/26. Harbour and approaches thoroughly swept with L.L. and S.A. sweeps, negative results to date. 1 mine exploded when dropped in harbour between A.2 and B.2 buoys, 4 dropped on south shore. These probably were C. or D. magnetic or acoustic unit near end of door of 1 recovered was magnetic. T.O.O.1139/27. (Ends) Approx, position of mines between A.2 and B.2 buoys 32° 4.4 N. 23° 58.9 E. (C. in C. Med. 0945C/29 to Admty.)

THRASHER. TETRARCH. THRASHER proceed direct from 034° 22' 025° 05' and TETRARCH direct from Scarpanto Channel both to arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0500C/51. (Capt. S.1. 0955C/29 to THRASHER, TETRARCH.)

ALBARA, MAYA, BOURGAS, TZAR PETRE. Italian tankers ALBARO and MAYA from Aegean and Bulgaria BOURGAS from Istanbul passed to Black Sea. Russians advised. Bulgarian TZAR PETRE arrived Istanbul to dock. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1011/29 to S.O.I. Med., D.N.I.)

Delta Air Raid. Night 28/29, 5 enemy aircraft operated over the Delta area. 5 bombs reported dropped South of Cairo. Night 27/28. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting fires and explosions on central cathedral and Juliana moles. (H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1029/29.)

/GREYHOUND .....

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

GREYHOUND. 634. My 1810/22/5 and A.F.O. 2551/40. Board of enquiry into loss of GREYHOUND will not be held. C.O. was lost and remainder of survivors have been sent to U.K. Written report follows. (C. in C. Med. 11200/29.)

DELPHINIUM. PEONY. Request you will sail DELPHINIUM when ready to relieve PEONY. PEONY to proceed Port Said for quick docking on relief. (C. in C. Med. 12290/29 to R.A.D. Med.)

Turkey and Axis Ships. Your 13410/27. Please see para.7 of 19370/28 from Adm. Kelly. Turkish Naval Operations Section confirm above and add additional reasons for moves to Erdek are lack of all facilities and prevalent malaria at Ayas and difficulty of maintaining naval patrol. Assistant Secretary General scouted idea of enemy cutting out Vichy ships on passage. Additional escort of Turkish armed auxiliary will be provided and armed guards placed on board all Vichy ships. All Governments concerned will be advised in advance. Movement expected to take place about 15/8. (N.A. Ankara 16340/29 to C. in C. Med.)

Enemy Units. One submarine (on surface) W.O.H.B. 4030 320 one Minesweeper. (A/C Y Sqdn. 1720/29 to Gp. H.Q.M.E.) (W.D. Note:- Position indecypherable in W.D.)
My 1720. Attacked Italian S/M (on surface) 4 bombs. No hits, nearest 30 yards, returning base petrol. S/M still on surface. (A/C Y Sqdn. 1815/29 to Gp. H.Q. M.E.)

Enemy M/V. P.C. and S. of Enemy, 1 M/V, N.G.P.R. 37 58, 240 12 1743. (A/C No.1 C. Sqdn. 1815/29 to Gp. H.Q. M.E.)

Enemy M/V REGENT. A 1000 ton steamer with cargo of petrol and stores expected to leave Tripoli (Libya) for Benghazi p.m./29. (S.I. 20040/29 to REGENT.)

/Operation .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Operation "Substance"

Conference between R.A.F., Masters of M/V's and N.L.O's. Suggestions. (V.A. Malta, 2055B/29 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
General Observations on "Substance" Convoy. (Govr. Malta, 1821B/29 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Situation Report 101.

UPHOLDER torpedoed AOSTA class cruiser scoring 2 hits in 038° 04' N. 011° 57' E. at 1952B/28.
UPRIGHT scored 2 hits on 500 foot floating dock proceeding westward in tow off Spartavento Cape 24/7.
(11) Operation "Guillotine" continues. HOBART and 2 destroyers now operating from Haifa.
(C. in C. Med. 2151C/29 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

HAVANA MARU.	S.O.I. Bombay's 1115/28. Request instructions whether HAVANA MARU may be delayed after completion of discharging cargo. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 0552Z/29, to C. in C. E.I.)
Umm. Qasr., R/C.	Early appreciation to be made of Naval requirements (including minesweeping and mine watching) at Umm Qasr., Report whether N L E I could carry out necessary R/C., during absence of Brig. Hughes in India. (C. in C. E.I., 0554Z/29 to S.N.O. Persian Gulf.)
Convoy B P 11. KANIMBLA.	Consisting of personnel ships NEVASA, ISLAMI, EGRA, EKMA, EL MADINA, ETHIOPIA will leave Bombay for Basra 2/8. KANIMBLA will escort B P II to 060° E., returning to Bombay. (C. in C. E.I., 0954Z/29, to Cdre R.I.N.)
U.S. Ships.	Your 0446Z/21 and Admty., 1532B/28. U.S. Navy Dept., states that U.S. Flag Ships proceeding beyond Capetown are governed by instructions received at Capetown and that Navy Dept., has NOT routed any ships beyond Capetown. (D.T.D. 1722B/29 to C. in C. E.I.)
MELBOURNE MARU.	S.O. (I) Bombay 1115/28, MELBOURNE MARU in 010° 14' N., 075° 02', stopped at 0310Z/29. Engine reported disabled, assistance not required. (C. in C. E.I., 1840Z/29, to S.O.I., Bombay.)

China.

U.S.Air R/C.	Following for Chiefs of Staff. Your 1809/27. Adm., Hart already provides air R/C to westward of Manila whenever I have asked him. (C. in C. China, 0241Z/29, to Admty.)
Vladivostok.	Following for F.O., and Chiefs of Staff from Cs in C. Far East and China. Consideration in C. in C's Far East 1445/8 addressed W.O., still obtains.

/Request.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China Contd.

Vladivostok. Contd.	Request Moscow's reply to F.O., telegram 775 may be communicated as soon as received; also policy of H.M.G., as to establishment of British Consulate at Vladivostok. (Capt. O.S., Singapore, 0526Z/29, to Admty.)
Japan and Vichy Shipping.	Your 2255B/27. Has there been any confirmation of this report? Doubt is thrown upon it by fact that French GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER left Saigon yesterday on her normal trading voyage to Singapore. I am not anxious to commence detaining French shipping unless our agreement with Decoux is definitely cancelled. (C. in C. China, 0901Z/29 to Admty.)
Japan and Indo-China.	F.E.W. 41. Indo-China. By agreement with Vichy Japanese forces have started to occupy South Indo-China. Naval Bases include Camranh Bay and Saigon. Air bases include Tourane, Nhatrang, Saigon, Soctrang, Pnom Penh, Siemreap. Two Japanese Bomber Squadrons have arrived at Saigon. Main landing expected to start 29th, 40,000 to 50,000 troops expected. Locations probably similar to air bases and thus form no threat to Yunan or Burma Road. Consider Japan will now consolidate in F. I.C., continue to exert pressure on Thailand and simultaneously make all preparation for attacks on U.S.S.R., if a favourable opportunity occurs. (C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0925Z/29 to Admty., etc.)
DUPLEIX (French.)	Departure 28/7. Trenet Haiphong. (Saigon, 1015Z/29, to M. of W.T.) The remainder of the telegram records the movements of non-enemy Merchant ships and a complete copy has been sent to D.T.D. Admiralty.
N.E.I. Navy Liaison.	My 0245Z/19/6. I now learn from Vice Adm. Helfrich that his suggestion for exchange of visits was made without previous reference to Governor General of N., E.I., and he does not think latter would approve visit unless this policy was spontaneously authorized by Netherlands Governments in London. (Suggestion.) Dutch S/Ms have been regularly visiting Singapore for exercises with local patrol vessels and there are 3 here now. (C. in C. China, 1015Z/29, to Admty.)

/Japanese.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China Contd.

Japanese Tugs in Malaya. Proposals in your 0445/21 are being submitted to the Cabinet.
(Head of M. 1154B/29, to C. in C. China.)

Japanese S/M Incident 18/7. Your 02352/27. Your point of view regarding use of Japanese submarines near Hong Kong has been placed before Ministry of Marine. Senior A.D.C., mentioned that various factors have contributed to shortage surface craft available for patrol. I consider Japanese M. of M., is frightened to interfere with dispositions adopted by their C. in C., on the spot, and your representations may therefore possibly have no effect.
(N.A., Tokyo, 1651/29 to C. in C. China.)

America & West Indies.

RICHMOND CASTLE. BANGALORE. Report of circumstances attending collision and consequent sinking of BANGALORE by gunfire should be obtained from Master of RICHMOND CASTLE and forwarded to Admty., forthwith, especial regard being taken as to signals sent out to which it is understood no replies were received vide your 1709Q/26.
(D.T.D. 0027B/29, to N.C.S.O., Port of Spain.)
Your 0027B/29, enquiry being held shortly, full report will be sent.
(N.C.S.O. Port of Spain, 1542Q/29, to Admty.)

SURCOUF. Arrived Portsmouth New Hampshire.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0203Z/29, to Admty.)

GINYO MARU. Germans in Japanese ship GINYO MARU for Japan, J.Rambau, Herbert Hempt, A Wagner, no records.
(S.O.I., Jamaica, 1004R/29, to Admty., etc.)

/H.X.141.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

H.X.141.	Newfoundland escort SKEENA, PRIMROSE, ALBERNI, ORILLIA. No sailings W.H.X. 141. (C.C.N.F., 1318Z/29, to C. in C.W.A.)
Group 14, T.C. Convoy.	Your 2201B/28. Anticipate Group 14 will be required for troop convoy sailing from Halifax about 20/8. In order to meet this and other commitments would be grateful if my 1801Z/27 to A.C.I.S., could be adhered to as closely as possible. (C.C.N.F., 1359Z/29, to C. in C.W.A.)
3rd Battle Sqdn.	Future employment. (A.C.N.S(H) 1524B/29 to R.A.3.) See Operations Volume.
CHILLIWACK.	Intend to sail for patrol Grand Bank Area, P.M./30, returning to St. Johns, N.F., A.M./3. (C.C.N.F., 1758/Z/29, to C. in C. A.W.I.)
DAVIS, (U.S.N.)	A.T. 1931/9 para. 5. (1) Amend last sentence, re date to arrive Bahia, fuel and leave for Trinidad. (2) DAVIS left Trinidad 28/7. Route and date to arrive Bahia 9/8. (D.O.D.(F) 1913B/29, to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.) (W.R. Note.- Former treated as "Hush".)
Trawlers.	Your 2135Z/22. (Not Admty., Message or received by Admty.) Commissioner for Natural Resources hopes to sail two Marystown Trawlers within fourteen days and the other two within three or four weeks. (C.C.N.F., 1955Z/29, to Admty.)
DOMINION MONARCH.	Your 1001Q/25. Concur that escort shall be provided from Curacao onwards only. N.C.S.O., Auckland's 1645M/22 states E.T.A., Panama 7/8. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1743/29 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

/Canadian.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

Canadian M.T.B.'s.	Your 1454/15. Admty., are most grateful for agreement to transfer M.T.B.s and equipment. Request you will arrange shipment to E. Med., of 4 70 foot M.T.Bs fitted with 18 inch Torpedo tubes together with the 20 18-inch Torpedoes available and gun armament and reserves as set out in my 1837B/9. (Vice-Controller 2013B/29, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
SELFOSS, French fishermen.	SELFOSS en route Iceland rescued 2 French Fishermen. Has been instructed to turn them over to N.C.S.O: at Port of arrival. (F.O.C.N.F., 2124Z/29, to A.C.I.C.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

29.7.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

LAPLAND, NORITA. (O.G. 69).

LAPLAND and NORITA torpedoed 040° 36' N., 015° 30' W., at 2145B/28. 45 Survivors picked up. BEGONIA sails direct to (Gibraltar) with (?another) 49 survivors including Commodore and Staff. Have three ships in convoy and five escorts. Unable to contact any out convoy after last night attack. E.T.A. R/V with FAULKNOR about 1000B/29. (JASMINE, 0004B/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)
All safe aircraft position 040° 04' N., (corrupt group) 20' W., at 0900B/29. (JASMINE, 0915B/29 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ATLANTIC CITY, (torpedoed 26/7).

Regret your 1743B/28. Submit your 0929B/27 appeared not to be addressed ZWARTE ZEE. Your 0935B/27 corrected was not received until ZWARTE ZEE had almost reached Lough Foyle under instructions from escort vessel which were presumed later orders. Do you still wish ZWARTE ZEE to stand by ATLANTIC CITY?
(ZWARTE ZEE, 0420B/29 to F.O.I.C., Greenock).
My 0929B/27, remain in Lough Foyle
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0723B/29 to ZWARTE ZEE).

BOTWEY (torpedoed 26/7).

British, 5106 tons Convoy O.S.1. from River Mersey to Port Sulphur, torpedoed A.M./26 about 68 miles N.W. of Bloody Foreland. (D.S.693, 29/7).

ENSIS (torpedoed 8/6).

Your 1533B/20/6. No. your 1625B/8/6 was not received by MIGNONETTE owing to wrong W/T watch being kept for period of ten hours on 8/6.
(C. in C. S.A., 2228N/29 to C. in C. W.A.)

IDA KNUDSEN (torpedoed 21/7)

Asking for certain information. (D.T.D., 1721B/29 to F.O.C.N.A.) See North Atlantic.

Submarines Reported.

0426 G.M.T.

At 0426 G.M.T. bearing of German S/M from Middle Hill Gibraltar was 296/2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0627B/29 to N.A. Stn).

Estimated U/B Dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1427B/29).

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C

Am over enemy S/M in 48° 05' N., 7° 40' W.
(A/C L.1. of 19 Group, 1125/29 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surfac and seen to submerge. (A/C L.2. 19 Group, 1138/29 to 19 Group H.Q.)
JJJJ Circling Oil left after attack.
(A/C L.3. of 19 Group 1150/29 to 19 Group H.Q.)

/By.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 29.7.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked. - Contd.

By A/C 1945. GGG 1 S/M attacked, oil patch on water, patrolling area MZAF (?4) 212. (45° 42' N., 8° 48' W.) (A/C duty B, 19 Gp. 1945/29 to 19 Group H.Q.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The Gris Nez batteries fired 6 rounds at 0400 today which fell close to the eastward of Dover harbour. Convoy C.E. 43 was between Dover and Folkestone at the time. No damage or casualties are reported.

Photographic R/C of Brest at 0815 today showed both battle-cruisers and PRINZ EUGEN in dry dock.

Operation E.F.V.4.

C.S.1. reports that as the result of attack by aircraft from VICTORIOUS on shipping at Kirkenes two hits were obtained on the gunnery training ship BREMSE and at least 2 other merchant ships were hit. Many attacks were unobserved. Fighter and bomber opposition was heavy.

At Petsamo FURIOUS found only two small ships. Aircraft torpedoed the jetties and bombed oil storage and warehouses.

British Air Operations.

Blenheims of Bomber Command returning from abortive attack on objectives in N.W. Germany attacked shipping today in the Heligoland Bight and claim to have destroyed a total of 6,200 tons.

Enemy Air Operations.

A German aircraft carried out a R/C of Iceland (C) today.

CURACOA with Convoy W.N. called for help at 2130 today in 57° 27' N., 1° 36' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Operations. S.N. 21 C.

PORT QUEBEC, escorted by SCOTT laid mines today north of the Hebrides.

N.L. 16.

3 M.L.'s from Dover laid mines off Calais in the early hours of today.

Aircraft last night laid mines off Rouen - Rade De La Carosse and St. Nazaire.

Enemy aircraft laid mines last night in the Thames Estuary. Mines were detonated in the Estuary today.

North Atlantic.

Operation Style.

NELSON, RENOWN, ARK ROYAL and 10 destroyers left Gibraltar by 0700 B today after sailing had been delayed by fog. UNIQUE has been ordered to patrol off the Straits of Messina and UTMOST off Palermo.

S.S. CHAUCER dispersed from O.B.68 reported being gunned by a submarine at 0129B today in 16° 46' N., 38° 1' W. There is no other evidence of a U-boat in this neighbourhood and the Admiralty at 1042B informed authorities concerned that it was possible the attack was made by a surface raider.

South Atlantic.

Italian Ships.

HIMALAYA sailed from Rio de Janeiro this evening and STELLA and AFRICANA from Pernambuco.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Attack on Elmas.

6 Beaufighters from Malta today made a successful attack on Elmas Aerodrome and seaplane Base. (Sardinia.)

Malta.

A guard loop was active and was detonated at 2332 today. Search revealed no wreckage.

Western Desert.

There were air raids on Tobruk at 1915 and 2315 today. It is suspected that mines were dropped.

Adjustment of station Limits.

In view of the necessity for S.N.O. Red Sea to control shipping movements and anchorages in the Gulf of Suez C. in C. Med., has agreed with C. in C. E.I. that as a temporary measure the dividing line between the two stations should be 26° 30' N., as from 0001/30.

Crete.

It is reported that there is an epidemic of cholera in Crete.

U-Boat Campaign.

S.S. NARMBOLDA reports sighting a submarine 10 miles off Cape Race at 2055Z today.

O.G.69 7 to 9 ships torpedoed to date.

Dutch S.S. SITOEBONDO is reported to have been torpedoed at 0048 G.M.T. today in 35° 19' N. 23° 53' W. Spanish tanker CAMPECHE landed the survivors at Ponta Delgada. Two other ships are reported to have been torpedoed in the same locality viz. SHAHRISTAN at 2335 G.M.T/29 and one unknown ship at approx. 0130 G.M.T. today.

At least 7 to 9 ships from Convoy O.G. 69 have now been torpedoed.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

RAMILLIES. My 1815B/29 and 1524B/29. RAMILLIES is not to be sailed until further orders. (V.C.N.S., 0242B/30).

Scapa. Withdrawal of Drifters. In view of the recent and prospective reinforcements of the A/S Forces at Scapa it is proposed to withdraw some of the Drifters and Motor Fishing Vessels for important duties elsewhere, which cannot at present be filled. It is suggested that withdrawals shall be at the rate of 5 A/S vessels per 8 110 Ft. M.L.'s Request your remarks, bearing in mind A.M. No. M/L.D. 02033/41 of 22/4. The 21st 110 ft. M.L. Flotilla should be operating early in October. (D.A./S.W., 1327B/30 to A.C.O.S.)

Sailing of Swedish Ships. Following from N.A. Your message 1343B/28 has been conveyed to Foreigh Office and shipping Committee Gothenburg who are still without information from London. I have instructed authorities that when vessels proceed tomorrow they must sail at intervals of about 6 hours. (N.A. Stockholm, 1758/30). A.M. 1343B/28. Swedish Legation has been informed that Swedish ships VASAHOLM, SATURNUS, and SVEADROTT must not proceed at less than 4 hourly intervals. (D.O.D. H., 1942B/30 to N.A. Stockholm).

M.L.'s available. M.L.'s 218, 188, 226, 231, 228, 232, available for service. (A.C.O.S., 1801/30).

Iceland M.V.'s. Your 1151/27. No objection to Iceland ships being sailed in convoy but U.S.A. authorities should be consulted as this has some bearing on decisions now being taken. Ships should be capable of maintaining convoy speed and supplied with necessary books. Only restriction regarding paint is that no white paint should be visible outboard. (V.C.N.S., 2144B/30 to A.C.I.C.)

Task Groups 2.7, 2.6, 2.5. My 0830/30 is passed to you for information. (C.I.C., 2043B/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

Task Force 1.2.2. Pass to VITAMIN from C.N.O. Begins:- NEW MEXICO, HUGHES, and RUSSEL forming task force one point two point two arrive Reykjavik a.m./31. Request pilot with information regarding West Channel to anchorage Hvalfiord aboard NEW MEXICO off Heads at 0700 G.C.T./31. Ends. (D.O.D. H., 2354B/30 to A.C.I.C.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Thames Estuary. War Channel. (C. in C. Nore, 1336B/30) See Operations Volume.

Movements.

EREBUS, WORCESTER, QUORN. Departure EREBUS escorted by WORCESTER and QUORN, 0600B. E.T.A. Scapa 1430B/1. (C. in C. Nore, 0926B/30).
WORCESTER and QUORN are to proceed Scapa with EREBUS. C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail them for Rosyth to comply with C. in C. Rosyth 1209/30. (C. in C. Nore, 1620B/30).

VETERAN. Y our 0901. Return to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1118/30 to VETERAN).
Sailing of VETERAN postponed.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2324/30)

ANTHONY. On arrival of SALAMANDER and HALCYON P.M. today ANTHONY return to Scapa with despatch.
(R.A.D. H.F., 1153B/30).

RAMILLIES. Request early information when RAMILLIES will arrive Liverpool as heavy programme of dry docking of troopships has to be arranged.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1157/30 to Admty).

ESPERANCE BAY. Concur in C. in C. Nore 2200B/29. Intend sailing ESPERANCE BAY from Rosyth so as to pass May Island at 0001/4 and arrive Thames Gates at 1200/5. Request WORCESTER and QUORN may be sailed from Scapa in time to fuel at Rosyth and sail with ESPERANCE BAY. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1209/30).

T.L.C.'s for Scapa. Request you will sail four T.L.C. to arrive Scapa by 8/8, await further orders at that port.
2. It is desired to increase this number to 6. To achieve this if shipping requirements permit 2 T.L.C. on passage from east coast to west coast for disassembly will be diverted to Scapa.
(D.T.S.D., 1441B/30 to V.A. C.T.C.)

S/M 09. Intend to sail Netherlands S/M 09 escorted by Netherlands T.B. Z 5 for Blyth 0900B/2nd Aug. via the Minches. E.T.A. 0900B/5. T.B. Z 5 returning with Norwegian S/M B.1. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection
(Capt. S.7. 1541B/30).

/SHEFFIELD.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

SHEFFIELD. When ready for sea request you will sail SHEFFIELD for Scapa for gunnery and other practices. (D.O.D. H., 1557B/30 to C. in C. Rosyth).

LE TRIOMPHANT. A.T. 1949B/25. Delete (1) (A) and (D) officers concerned will travel as in para 2. (D.O.D. (F) 1851B/30 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth).

BERWICK. Intend sailing BERWICK from Rosyth 0900B/3. E.T.A. Scapa 2130B/3. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2253/30).

LONDON. On completion of practice 31/7 proceed to Greenock. (C. in C. H.F., 2313B/30 to LONDON)

Task Force 1.2.2. Arrives Reykjavik A.M./31. (D.O.D. H, 2354B/30) See U.S.A.

Operations.

Dover Shelled. Gris Nez Batteries fired sixrounds at 0400 today which fell close to the eastward of Dover Harbour C.E. 43 between Dover and Folkestone at the time. No damage or casualties reported. (V.A. Dover, 0901B/30).

"Puma" Exercise Spearhead. D.T.S.D., 1502B/30. See Operations Volume.

?E.F.V.4. Your 1331/14 carrier will be using W/T call sign M. for Monkey G for George and R/T call sign DUGOUT. (D.S.D., 1526B/30 to A.C.I.C.)

Patrols. Estimated position 2000 tonight. SHROPSHIRE patrolling Denmark Straits. One A/S trawler patrolling West of Faeroes. MINERVE patrolling N.E. of Faeroes. (A.C.O.S., 1535B/30).

Operation F.B. Operation F.B. Para 4 F. Restrictions extended till 6/8. Submarine A withdrawn till 4/8 inclusive. German 6th Destroyer Flotilla possibly operating from Tanafiord. (C. in C. H.F., 1743B/30 to S.O. Force A).

/Biscay.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.7.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. - Contd.

Biscay South Zone Patrol — Proceed to patrol in area South of 046° N., and East of 006° 30' W. Line joining the following position is recommended. 050° RR 54 and 090° RR 66. (F.O.S., 1922B/30 to SEAWOLF.)

Operation E.F.V.4. BREMSE and 4 M.V.s hit. Petsamo damaged. — Force P sighted as attack launched. VICTORIOUS attack. Kirkness. 2 hits on BREMSE, 4 merchant ships hit, many attacks unobserved as fighter and bomber opposition heavy. 11 T.S.R. 2 fighters lost. 2 M.E. 109 one JU 87 shot down. FURIOUS. Petsamo. 2 small ships only present probably both Spanish jetties torpedoed. Bomb set on fire one oil tank and warehouse. One T.S.R. 2 fighters lost to ME 109. FURIOUS, SUFFOLK, 3 destroyers returning VICTORIOUS completing with A/C from FURIOUS. (Sentence omitted, see operations volume) Where is shipping. Force not attacked so far. (S.C. One, 2121/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

British Air Activity.

Bombing operations. — Day 29 July. Night 29/30 July. No operations took place owing to unfavourable weather. (H.Q.B.C., 1225/30).

Patrols. — STAB and BERT. now in operation.
-(C. in C. Rosyth, 1226/30).
VOE A and VOE B now being flown.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1644/30).
My 1644/30. Patrol ceased at 1915 owing to low visibility. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1918/30).
134. Patrol of exercise area west of Orkneys now in operation by 18 group until 0400/31.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2014/30.)
STAB and BERT now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2210/30).

Tay Sanctuary. — Ops. 819/30. Institute Tay Sanctuary from 0800/31. (H.Q.C.C., 1959/30).

S.B. Restrictions. — Request S.B.R. in area 56 forthwith until further notice. (F.O.S., 2142B/30 to H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.S. 54. ADAMS BECK (collier, 2816 tons) sunk.	Rescue tug SEA GIANT sailed to assist bombed Tanker off 20 C. Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0012/30). E C O O 78 ADAM BECK sunk by bomb 235° 1 mile from 20 C buoy. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0051/30 QUANTOCK, 0130B/30).
Iceland.	A German aircraft carried out R/C of Iceland today. (D.D.I.C., 1256B/30).
Convoy W.N. Odd.	Help MATERIAL 57° 27' N., 1° 36' W. (CURACOA 2310/30).

Mining.

Operation S.N.[illegible]21 C.	Departure Port ZA PORT QUEBEC and SCOTT (N.O.I.C Port Z.A., 0701B/30).
ROSME (sailing Barge) Mined 3/7.	Position of Wreck. (Capt. Sheerness 0925/30).
Firth of Forth.	Intend to sail RINGDOVE 0830/31 to clear VM 2 Area. Captain M.S. Granton is requested to sweep area on transit from Dan Buoy to North Shore and back with S.A. only by 1000. (Captain, Port Edger 1200/30).

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.	Photographic R/C at 0815/30. shows battlecruisers and HIPPER cruiser all in dry dock. (D.D.I.C., 1340B/30).

Casualties & Defects.

AMROTH CASTLE. (M/S Trawler).	Ashore 100 yds. North true from Queenborough Pier. Coal in cross bunker has shifted. Vessel is being sealed. Expect to commence pumping tomorrow. (A.S.O. Sheerness, 1545/30).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X.138 — Cdre. MacRae, R.N.R., has arrived complete, 29 British, 18 Allied ships. 15 tankers. Other cargoes. (D.S., 694, 30/7).

S.C.37 — Rear-Adm. K.E.L.Creighton, Commodore, has arrived safely, 40 ships including 21 British, 15 Allied, 4 neutral. Cargoes. (D.S., 694, 30/7).

LEOPOLDVILLE (D.S.9). — My 0313/24. D.S. 9. will now sail Clyde (date) Embarkation will take place 6/8. and 7/8. Vessel will return in S.D. 9 to Greenock for disembarkation. (D. of S.T., 0320B/30).

W.S.11 A. — Following are proposals for convoy W.S.11 A. (D. of S.T., 0321B/30).

STRATHEDEN. — My 0312/24. Voyage of STRATHEDEN will now commence 8.8. Embarkation date proposed 7.8. (D. of S.T., 0319B/30).

U.S. Tankers, Iceland. — Your 1912B/25. Consider six cargoes could be transhipped perweek safely. Additional escort ships will be required to escort oilers to and fro U.K. Presume U.S. escorts will convoy U.S.tankers (A.C.I.C., 1137Z/30 to Admty).

Northbound Convoys. — Forecast of sailings from Southend. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1110/30 to Admty etc). See Lion Copy.

F.N. and F.S. — Harwich additional escorts. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1254B/30 to C. in C. Nore etc). See Lion Copy.

W.N. Convoys. — Following received from Admiralty. As from W.N. 61 Convoys will start from Oban and not from Clyde (ends). Therefore your ships for London and East Coast should be sent to Belfast for oiling and onward routeing to Oban forthwith. (N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1445B/30 to Brit. Shipping Advisor, Dublin and Cork).

/3 day.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

2 day convoy cycle.

Your 1115/15 (? 1125/15 intended) and my 1519/17. I am not in favour of omitting Dartmouth as port of call at present. Reasons. Will be reconsidered when lenghth of daylight is insufficient for passages between Needles and Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1705/30 to C. in C. Portsmouth)
See Lion Copy.
In view of Admty 0135B/26, if N.C.S.O. Clyde has valuable ships destined for W.N. convoys, he is to notify F.O.I.C. Belfast, who is then to arrange that the next trawler escorts proceeding to Oban meet such ships in the Approach Channel off Ailsa Craig and escort them to Oban.
(C. in C. W.A., 1750B/30 to F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

W.S.10.

Orders for A/A and A/S escorts. (C. in C. W.A. 1533B/30 to N.O.I.C.'s) See Lion Copy.

W.N. Convoys.

Programme W.N. 62 to W.N. 65 inclusive.
(N.C.S.O., Oban, 1758B/30) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LEESEK. (German) — Due to have left Bilbao evening 29/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 0359B/30 to N.A. Stn.)

Operation "Style". — Departures for "Style", NELSON, RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, FAULKNOR, FORESIGHT, FURY, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, COSSACK, MAORI, NESTOR, ENCOUNTER, ERIDGE. Last ship left harbour at 0700B/30. Sailing delayed by fog. (F.O.C.N.A. 0748B/30 to Admty.)

LOBSTINE. (French Tug) — Departure 28/7, destination unknown. (Lisbon, 1147/30 to M. of W.T.)

Funchal Defences. — Your 1915B/29. No definite information to add to N.C.S.O. Funchal Intelligence Report to D. of N.I. dated 24/4 1941 and May Supplement. (Consul, Funchal, 1205/30 to Admty.)

BEVERLEY. — From position G 034° 20' N. 012° 00' W. proceed through position H 034° 20' N. 015° 00' W. thence to M. (F.O.C.N.A. 1240B/30 to BEVERLEY.)

German A/C. — At 1140 today off Oitavos a German A/C from southward going north. (N.A. Lisbon, 1543/30 to Admty.)

French M/V's. — Departure 28/7 MARIE GABRIELLE, JEUNE DENISE, COURDANNIS; Departure 29/7 PRESIDENT LAVIT. (Bilbao, 1849/30 to M. of W.T.)

French Convoy. — Gibraltar 1200/30, French survey vessel SENTINELLE French ships CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN, MAROC, both in ballast. Trawlers AUGUSTE DENISE, MONT CASSEL, both full westbound. (S.O.I. Gib. 2005B/30 to Admty. etc.)

ABANDO. — Your 1237/29. Have intercepted Spanish ABANDO Huelva to Pasajes with pyrites. Request instructions. (LOCH OSKAIG, 2200A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Convoy. — Convoy 3 French ships leave Toulon p.m./30 routed through 041° 35' N. 010° 00' E. about 0500 G.M.T./31 thence through Straits of Messina. They are not to be attacked. (F.O.C.N.A. 2108B/30 to S/M's O.24, O.21.)

/MANCHESTER .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

MANCHESTER. My 1712B/27. Further details of damage. (C.S. Gibraltar, 2216B/30 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

ORION. Admty. 1918B/24 and my 1133B/28. Following is proposed programme for ORION. (S.N.O. Simonstown, 0903Z/30 to C. in C.S.A. amended 1348Z/30.) Approved. (C. in C.S.A.1018N/31.)

Finnish Ships. Admty. 247A of 22/6. Your 0303N. I am not clear whether (a) outward bound Finnish ships and (b) homeward bound Finnish ships whose masters guarantee that they are proceeding to a British or U.S. port, should now be intercepted and sent in under armed guard. (R.A.S.A.D.1032Z/30 to C. in C.S.A.)

~~[illegible]~~. LIDVAARD. My 2105N/27 and HIGHLANDER's 0830/28. Report of escape of LIDVARD from Dakar night of 26-27/7. (C. in C.S.A. 1211N/30 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

MARISA THORDEN. R.A.S.A.D's 0047/27. MARISA THORDEN is not to be interfered with. (Head of M. 1256B/30 to C. in C.S.A.)

HIGHLANDER. My 1445/29. HIGHLANDER sailed from Freetown 1800/30 E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800B/4 routed as in my 1905/26. (C. in C.S.A. 1319N/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

WIPUNEN. (Finnish) Ship here. Captain refuses to sail and says willing to sell ship and cargo. (Gasoline, lubricating oil, sugar, coal) Captain states ship mortgaged to Nordstroem and Thulin Stockholm who have instructed him to sell. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1536Z/30 to Admty.)

STELLA, AFRICANA. (Italian) Have just applied to be cleared for Hamburg this evening at 2000 G.M.T. (Consul Pernambuco, 1815Z/30 to Admty.)(S.O.I. Montevideo 1954Z/30 to R.A.S.A.D.) STELLA, see also C. in C.A.W.I. 1909Q/30.

/Pernambuco ....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

STELLA, AFRICANA. (Italian) contd. — Pernambuco reports AFRICANA has sailed and passed breakwater at 2115 G.M.T./30 steering East. (S.O.I. Montevideo 23062/30 to R.A.S.A.D.) (C. in C.S.A. 2357N/30 to S.A. Stn.)

Convoy W.S.9 B. — W.S.9 B. (A) Arrived (B) Fuelling, discharging troops and cargo. (C) 3/8. (S.S.T.O. Durban, 1547Z/30 to D. of S.T.)

CARNARVON CASTLE, ERLANGEN. — My 1737/27 R.A.S.A.D. proposes to retain CARNARVON CASTLE with prisoners from ERLANGEN on board until required to sail to arrive Capetown about end of August. (C. in C.S.A. 1845N/30 to Admty.)

HIMALAYA. (Italian) — Passing Fort Santa Cruz now. (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro 1900Z/30 to Admty.) (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1931Z/30 to R.A.S.A.D.)
My 1931Z/30 HIMALAYA reported to be steering North. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2108Z/30 to R.A.S.A.D.)

German M/V Report. — Information (ungraded) received from secret source indicates that a German ship with cargo for Argentine Republic may shortly be expected at Mar Del Plata from Germany or France. One source states that there have already received copies of Bill of Leding and Manifesto. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2245Z/30 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

U/B UNIQUE. — Expected enemy U-boat departs from Augusta 2015/30 approx. course 105°. (Cdr. S.1 0535B/30 to UNIQUE.)

ATLAS. (German) — Arrival 28/7. (Valencia 0727/30 to M. of W.T.)

/Palermo .....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Palermo. Air photograph of Palermo Noon/29 reveals 4 - six inch cruisers and 3 torpedo boats. Cruiser damaged by UPHOLDER apparently not (group omitted) present. F.O.C.N.A. pass to HERMIONE. (V.A. Malta, 0959B/30.)

U/B attacked by A/C. Egypt. 29/7. One Blenheim attacked enemy S/M 34° 28' N. 24° 37' E. Nearest bomb falling 30 yards astern. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1011/30.)

Benghazi bombed. Night 28/29. 9 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour starting small fires between Central and Cathedral Moles.

Tobruk Convoy attacked, Lighter sunk. Day 29/7. Tomahawks and Hurricanes provided covering patrols over Lighters proceeding to Tobruk. Large number of JU.87's escorted by ME.109's which attacked Convoy in evening were intercepted. Believed 4 JU.87's, 2 ME.109's destroyed. 2 Tomahawks missing and 1 Lighter sunk. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E.1012/30)

Operation "Guillotine" Serial 4. HOBART, KIMBERLEY, KANDAHAR and another destroyer detailed by R.A.(D) Med. HOBART, KIMBERLEY, KANDAHAR to Alexandria on completion. Remaining Destroyer to Haifa. Serial 15 NEPTUNE, ABDIEL and one Destroyer detailed by R.A.(D) Med. NEPTUNE and Destroyer to Haifa on completion, ABDIEL to Alexandria. Ships are to be sailed accordingly. (C. in C. Med. 11060/30 to S, and A., Operation "Guillotine")

Vichy Convoy from Toulon. Convoy Z consists of Vichy French ships KOUTOUBIA DJENNE ALSINA leaving Toulon p.m./30. (Route) to Beirut. Ships are not to be attacked as they adhere to instructions given above. (C. in C. Med. 11180/30 to Med. Fleet.)

UNBEATEN. Remain S. of 36° from 0001B/2 to 0001B/3. 3 cruisers with destroyers will pass Eastwards to Malta a.m. and Westwards to Kolibia p.m. on 2/8 F.O.C.N.A. pass to HERMIONE. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1120B/30 to UNBEATEN.)

/UTMOST .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UTMOST, UNIQUE.	UTMOST proceed with (group omitted) to patrol within 30 miles Palermo leave patrol p.m./31 to patrol Westward along 038° 15' during daylight 1/8 and make passage Q.B.B.65 during daylight 2/8 to arrival Malta before 2100/3 or after 0700/4. UNIQUE after complying with my 0335B/30 patrol Strait of Messina until p.m./1 leaving to arrive Malta 0700/3. Object of patrols as for operation "Stop". F.O.C.N.A. pass to HERMIONE. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1123B/30 to UTMOST, UNIQUE.)
Turkey and French Ships.	For Adm. Kelly. Your 2243/27 being passed to Admiralty. On the whole reasons for the move to Erdek appear weak. I attach great importance to preventing passage of these ships through Aegean where they will almost certainly be seized by Axis. Presume Ambassador has been consulted to see what steps can be taken. Report what action is being taken. (C. in C. Med. 1130/30 to N.A. Angora.)
OTUS, THRASHER, TETRARCH.	Instructions re arriving Alexandria. (Capt. S.1., 1158C/30.)
PARTHIAN.	S.O. Force H. 2302B/29. PARTHIAN should be retained at Malta, if necessary, to keep her clear of operation "Style". She is not fit to go on patrol in her present condition with unreliable hydrophone. (C. in C. Med. 1252C/30 to S.O. Force H., V.A. Malta.)
BRECONSHIRE.	Intended should give ten days leave to each watch on return to U.K. and complete any minor defects. Request your intentions for her future employment. (4th S.L.1254B/30 to C. in C. Med.)
Enemy Units.	3 battleships, 5 destroyers, bearing 020° distant 25 miles. My position 020° 20 miles from PANT. (A/C Med. duty A. 1325/30 to Med. A/C.) 3 battleships, 5 destroyers, bearing 020° distant 35 miles. My position 020° 20 miles from PANT. (A/C Med. duty A. 1330/30 to Med. A/C.) P.C. and S. of 3 M/V's, 5 destroyers, distant 37 miles 26° N. 26.14 degs E. 030° 12 knots. (A/C Med. duty O., 1330/30 to Med. A/C.)

/URGE .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

URGE. Reports sighting U-Boat at 2220/20 in position at 5 miles 220 from Marittimo Light. Enemy's course 280° speed 12 knots. Attack was impossible. Off Cape Breton 3 Sweepers observed (corrupt group) operating in known Channel. 1403/24 fired 2 torpedoes at 2500 ton laden M/V approaching Palermo from westward, missed due to underestimating speed. On 24/7 C.O. developed what appeared to be acute lumbago, which became worse until unable to leave bunk. At 2130/26 operation "Substance" being complete, URGE returned to Harbour. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1340B/30 to Capt. S.1.)

French Deserters. General Catroux requests apprehension by British or Free French Naval Force of persons named Soubeyran Richerdre and families, and 2 deserters from Foreign Legion at Pont Noire who left Cabinda in Portuguese ship to Lobito arriving about 28/7 bound for Lisbon. (N.O.I.C. Syria, 1611/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Cholera in Crete. Following from N.A. Stockholm. (Begins) Swedish Air Attache in Berlin flew over Crete during last few days of June. No landing was made and no excuses offered for returning without landing. It became known later that in Crete there is now an epidemic of cholera. (Ends) Message not graded. (D.N.I. 1727B/30 to C. in C. Med.)

CALANTHE. (Bombed 24/4.) Your 1617B/29/7. CALANTHE dive bombed, set on fire, and sunk 1800/24/4 at Pyracos Island near Milo. Vessel was on passage from Piraeus to Crete with British Legation Staff and some civilians, in charge of Commander J. Brass, R.N. Assistant N.A. Athens. (P.S.T.O. Egypt 1930/30 to D. of S.T.)

CANADA. (French) Hospital Ship passes Bellarmi 0400/31 through Straits of Messina passing 5 miles north of Ustica 1600/31 thence through 036° 21' N. 010° E. to arrive Bizerta 0700/1. She is not to be molested. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1957/30 to UNIQUE, UTMOST.)

ATLAS. (German) Departure 29/7 Cartagena in ballast. (Valencia T.H.I. 2315/30 to M. of W.T.)

Situation Report 102. Western Desert. One "A" Lighter bombed and sunk off Bardia while going to Tobruk p.m./29. Fighter patrol believed to have shot down 4 JU. 87 and 2 ME.109 for loss of 2 Tomahawks. (C. in C. Med. 2320C/30 to Admty.)

Enemy Convoy. 14 Knots escorted Southbound Convoy due 036° 50' 011° 54' at 1530/31 probably proceeding via Kerkenah. (S.O.(S) Malta, 2354B/30 to UNBEATEN.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Convoys C.M. 16 A and B.	Your 1230/22. Proposals and dates. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa to C. in C. E.I., 0705Z/30) Concur. Convoy will be known as C.M. 16 A and B. (C. in C. E.I., 0954Z/31).
HAVANA MARU.	Your 0552/29. In absence of special instructions from Home or Indian Govts. ship should not be delayed. (C. in C. E.I., 0806Z/30 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)
W.S. 9 B. GALATEA.	GALATEA escorting Durban portion Convoy W.S. 9 B arrived. (N.L.O. Durban, 0849Z/30).
W.S. 9 AX.	W.S. 9 AX arrived. (N.C.S.O., Colombo, 1202Z/30 to Admty).

China.

French S/Ms.	Censorship report of 25/6 suggests S/M parent ship JULES VERNE and a flotilla of submarines then probably in Toulon will proceed to the tropics. (C.S. Singapore, 0401Z/30 to Admty). N.I.D. Comment This is incorrect JULES VERNE has been at Dakar since about 1/4/41.
ALBERT SARRANT	Left Saigon. French Macao. (Saigon 0920Z/30 to M. of W.T.)
Far East Trade.	Your 0914Z/28. Concur. Request you will issue necessary instructions to all N.C.S.O.'s and C.S.A.'s on your station, keeping Admiralty informed of any change in routeing policy for Merchant Ships you consider desirable, with particular reference to bunkering of ships at Honolulu. (D/A.C.N.S. (T) 1339B/30 to C. in C. China)
Thailand.	Policy. (C. in C. Far East, 1941/30 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.5.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

CAP PADARAN (French).

Following is a repetition of C.C.S.O. Trinidad 1645Q/28 (Begins) Master of BENNEKOM reports sighting CAP PADARAN at1700 G.M.T. on 13/7 in 019° 24' S., 009° 02' W., steering 130°. Ship painted Black with name on side amidships and French Flag surrounded by Orange border under 4/5. T.O.O. 1645Q/28 (ends).
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0128Q/30 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.S.A.D.)

Task Groups 2.7 2.6 2.5.

Following received from U.S. Naval Authorities. Task Group 2.7 consisting of LIVERMORE, KEARNEY, ERICSSON, and NASHVILLE will leave Hampton Roads on 6/8 (Programme) Task Group 2.6 consisting of MEREDITH, LONGISLAND, GWIN, MONSSEN, and SAVANNAH will depart Bermuda 2/8 (programme)
Task Group 2.5 consisting of the ROE, GRAYSON, YORKTOWN, EBERLE, and BROOKLYN is scheduled to depart from Hampton Roads 30/7, and begin patrol near Bermuda on 1/8 (programme). (D.D.I.C. 0830B/30 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

ALAUNIA.

Following from B.A.R.M. My 0910R/25 ALAUNIA is due to sail for Halifax (date). (B.A.D. 0902R/30 to R.A. 3 B.S.)

RESOLUTION.

My ARMUK 586, 608 and 613. No reports received from WARSPITE or DIDO. Request policy Admiralty intends to adopt with regard to manning of RESOLUTION at end of August, i.e. whether ship is to be manned as well as possible from WARSPITE and DIDO or whether ratings are being sent from England. (B.A.R.M., 0908R/30 to Admty).

Forestry Unit STRATHAIRD.

Your 1910B/19. STRATHAIRD will be diverted to Belize arriving about 4/8. All further arrangement will be made by N.O.I.C. Trinidad.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/30 to Admty).

PANDORA.

Anticipated date of completion ex trials. (B.A.R.M., 1220R/30 to Admty).

Group 22 O.N.4.

Request ships of Group 22 whose boiler hours are high may be boiler cleaned on arrival Iceland and subsequently sailed with O.N.4. Complete intended operational schedule of N.E.F. has been despatched to you in SKEENA.
(C.C.N.F., 1234Z/30 to A.C.I.C.)

/Report.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.7.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Report of capture of German trawler. Your 1139B/27/6 (?) not to N.S.H.Q. Following from Canadian N.A. Washington (begins) U.S.Navy Dept. would like confirmation of story that a German trawler flying Portuguese Flag was seized on high seas and brought to St. John's and crew imprisoned. This report comes from Consul St. Pierre Miquelon. Name of ship unknown. (ends). Request you inform Navy Dept. as desirable. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1451Z/30 to Admty).

Trinidad bunkers. C. in C. A.W.I., 2242/24 and F.O.I.C. Trinidad's 1658/ 23. In order to avoid the diversion of large number of merchant ships to Curacao the supplying of fuel by tanker from Curacao or Carapito to Trinidad can be accepted.
It is intended that both Northbound and Southbound shipping should continue to bunker at Trinidad. (D.T.D., 1822B/30 to C. in C. A.W.I., F.O.I.C. Trinidad).

JOANNIS & AGIOS GEORGIOS. Crew trouble in Greek Merchant ships at Wabana causing serious delays in sailing. At present two ships named are involved, but trouble almost certain to spread unless strong action taken. Suggestions. (C.C.N.F., 1828Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Oil Stocks Valparaiso. Your 1202Q/28. (visit of PRINCE ROBERT to Valparaiso). Question of oil stocks. Suggestion. (A.N.A., Santiago de Chile, 1855/30 to C. in C. A.W.I.) See Lion Copy.

STELLA (Italian). At Pernambuco, reported by Trinidad censorship to have loaded approx 55,000 hides destined for Germany. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1909Q/ 30 to C. in C. S.A.)

BRITISH TRADER My 1728R/25. Arrived Barbados 27/7. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2207/30 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

PERTH. Thanks to A.C.N.B. for very valuable services rendered by PERTH whilst attached to Med., Fleet. (1st Lord, 0231B/30 to A.C.N.B.)

LEANDER Thanks to N.Z.N.B. for generous way in which this ship has been placed at disposal of other Commands and admiration of excellent work on E. Indies Station and in Med. (1st Lord, 0232B/30 to N.Z.N.B.)

French M.V.s. Arrival CAPITAINE ILLIAQUER,
Departure CAPITAINE ILLIAQUER Newcastle. New South Wales. 31/7.
(Port Kembla. 2355Z/30 to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

30.7.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CHAUCER. Following has been read from PENNINGTON COURT:- S.S.S.S. from CHAUCER. 16° 46' N. 38° 01' W. CHAUCER gunned 2309/29 D E Z L 2 A A 2330/29. (Portishead Radio 0140/30) British 5792 tons, had been in O.B.68 (? O.G.68) (D.S.694) Following received from O.P.N.A.V. and passed to A.L.U.S.N.A. Ottawa for delivery to C.N.S. Ottawa for action and to C.O.M. Task Force 3 and CINCLANT for information: American NORMAC SWAN reports: "British S.S. CHAUCER attacked by submarine gunned at 2310 G.M.T. lat 16-45 N. 38-01 W. All quiet now and unable to get any response". T.N.I. 0535/30. (SPENAVO 0543/30.) Reference report of U-Boat attack by s.s. CHAUCER in 16° 46' N. 38° 01' W. at 0129B/30. No other evidence of a U-Boat in this vicinity. Possible that this attack was by a surface raider. (D.D.I.C. 1042B/30 to C. in C.S.A. etc.)

O.G.69. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1400 G.M.T./30. 49 survivors on board none injured. (BEGONIA 0830B/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)
I am rather in the dark as to casualties suffered by O.G.69. Grateful if you would signal a brief summary including action taken by escort and details of survivors. In future a sloop will be included in each escort group. (C. in C.W.A. 1428B/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

LAPLAND.
NORITA.
(O.G.69.) Proceeding in accordance with your 1821B/29. Estimated noon position 035° 12' N. 011° 40' W. course 080° speed 6 knots. Following ships in company: JASMINE, PIMPERNEL, LARKSPUR, FLEUR DE LYS, ST. NECTAN, ADJUTANT, RHINELAND and COMO. RHODODENDRON was detached at 1200B/30 to proceed direct to Gibraltar at full speed with 45 survivors. LAPLAND all saved and NORITA 2 lives lost. RHODODENDRON is ordered to send this at 1600B/30. RHODODENDRON and FLEUR DE LYS have no depth charges remaining. (JASMINE, 1145B/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Reported.

2117 G.M.T. At 2117 G.M.T. Italian U/B bearing 295/3 made a sighted report. (F.O.C.N.A.S. 0021B/30 to JASMINE.)

/1155 .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 30.7.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1155. A/C report large S/M on surface in 043° 37' N. 009° 47' W. course E.N.E. (F.O.S., 1237B/30 to S/M's on Patrol, Area A.)
My 1237B/30. S/M was sighted at 1155.
(F.O.(S) 1804B/30.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1422B/30)

2055Z. NARWHOLDA reports S/M 10 miles off Cape Race at 2055Z which submerged. (C.C.N.F. 2119Z/30 to READING, DIANTHUS, BURNHAM, WESTASKIWIN, C.C.N.F. 21372/30 to Area 7A.)

2132 G.M.T. By D/F at 2132 G.M.T. German S/M bearing 268°/3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2333B/30 to N.A. Stn.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. See Mediterranean.

By A/C. 1612/30, 53.50 N., 8.25 E., one near miss claimed. (D.S.695 31/7.)

By A/C. 1907/30, 52.55 N., 14.16 W. attack with 2 bombs on possible P/S. (D.S.695 31/7.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

A squadron of Hurricanes this afternoon attacked a group of "R" boats, one "E" boat and a naval escort vessel west of St. Valery, some ships being heavily hit.

At 1545 a squadron of Spitfires were despatched to attack E. boats 10 - 15 miles S.W. of Dover. Two vessels appear to have been hit.

Enemy Air Operations.

Grimsby Trawler ONWARD reports slight damage from air attack at 1315B/31 20 miles east of Nolso (Faeroes).

Convoy F.S.55 was attacked at 0555 today in 55° 36' N. 1° 28' W. The nearest bombs fell 3 miles astern.

Convoy E.C.53 was attacked at 2242 today, 22 miles N.E. of Yarmouth. No details are known.

North Atlantic.

Operation "Style". Force X., HERMIONE, ARETHUSA, fast minelayer MANXMAN and two destroyers left Gibraltar at 0200 today to escort to Malta a convoy with reinforcements and stores.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

It is reported that VANSITTART intercepted Vichy French OUED GROU off Bathurst today. The ship is being taken to Freetown.

Mediterranean.

OLYMPUS is returning to Gibraltar with damage from depth charges or bombs, having been bombed at periscope depth 5 miles W. of Caroli Island by a flying boat, though she is still capable of diving and attacking. She reports having sunk one small coaster.

Messina was attacked with small bombs today, a burst being seen on the jetty beside a cruiser.

5 aircraft of 830 Sqdn. (R.N.Swordfish) attacked a southbound convoy today and scored one possible torpedo hit on a 5000 ton ship.

There were 14 minelaying raids on Alexandria during the 3 months ending 31/7. One ship casualty was caused.

Western Desert.

Mines are suspected off Tobruk. The port was closed at 0015 today. One mine was detonated. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night, and 2 Wellingtons bombed Gazala and Bardia.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S.S. CITY OF AUCKLAND reports gun action with a U-boat on 7/7 in 53° 14' N. 31° 21' W. The enemy broke off the action after CITY OF AUCKLAND had fired 3 rounds, the last of which appeared to hit. CITY OF AUCKLAND received superficial damage.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy,

PEGASUS. Your 1635B/29. Approved for PEGASUS to be on three days notice for operations to enable her aircraft to be used for flying training, subject to Admiralty concurrence.
(C. in C. W.A., 0915B/31, to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

VASA HOLM, SATURNUS, SVEADROTT. N.A. Gothenburg reports:-
1. Your 1942B/30 indicates that vessels must proceed from Gothenburg at no less than four hour intervals.
2. Min. of Economic Warfare mge. No. 416 RFAR of July 30th states Admiralty consent is granted for ships to sail in company from Gothenburg providing they approach Faroe Islands at no less than four hours steaming distance apart. Action by Swedish authorities has been taken in accordance with these instructions.
3. (?Accordingly) three ships sailed at 1150/31. They will R/V with fourth ship in 62° N., 3° E., about 2200/2/8 thence proceeding in company until reaching Nolsoe where they will open to four hours steaming prior to approaching Faroe Islands.
4. It would be appreciated if Min. of Economic Warfare and Admiralty could sponsor co-ordination of route instructions, as much confusion has resulted in this case.
(N.A. Stockholm 1807/31 to Adty.)
Informing MINERVE of their sailing.
(A.C.O.S. 1951B/31.)

Flag of R.A.M. Intend to transfer my flag from AGAMEMNON to SOUTHERN PRINCE at 0900/2/8. Request necessary authorities may be informed.
(R.A.M. 2204/31 to Adty.)

Scapa. Withdrawal of Drifters. Your 1327B/30. Duties performed by A/S drifters and Motor Fishing vessels inside the Flow are close patrol on the booms and eastern entrance and as parachute mine look-outs in the Flow. Duties performed by 110ft MLs are distant patrols outside the Flow and as A/S striking force.
(3) Although some of the duties of the patrols inside the Flow could be carried out by 110 ft. MLs they are unsuitable and most uneconomical. Although 72 ft. MLs are not so suitable as A/S drifters for work on the booms at Scapa, in view of the important duties for which they are required elsewhere, three A/S steam drifters and five A/S fishing vessels can be released when relieved by an equal number of 72 ft. MLs.
(A.C.O.S. 2213/31 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

JUMNA. — You are to return to Belfast forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A., 1048B/31 to JUMNA.)

HARRIER. — Sail HARRIER to Scapa forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A. 1050B/31 to N.O.I.C.Londonderry.)

WORCESTER. — Your 1135B/31 not to C. in C. Nore, part company and proceed Rosyth for repairs.
QUORN is to continue with EREBUS to destination.
(C. in C. Nore 1600/31, to WORCESTER.)

Operations.

Operation E F V 4. — C.in C. H.F., 0501B/31, C.S.1 1925/31.
See Operations Volume.

M.G.B. Operation. — Two M.G.B's are to be sailed to Portsmouth 1/8. They are required for operations lasting possibly ten days.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1833B/31 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Exercise SPEARHEAD. — My 1502B/30. Cancel para. 2 (b).
(D.T.S.D. 2024B/31 to V.A.C.T.C.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — STAND now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0152/31.)
Voe A and B now operating.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0540/31.)
My 2014/30. Patrol extended until 1000/31.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0636/31.)

/My 0540/31....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.7.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. Contd. My 0540/31. A/C now returned owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 1204/31.)

Bomber Command Operations. 30/7. Following M.V.'s claimed as total loss in Heligoland Bight:- 1500 tons (3), 1200 tons (1), 500 tons (1). (H.Q.B.C., T.H.I., 1425/31.) See Lion Copy.

Operation E.F.V.4. Catalina aircraft will leave Archangel between 1500B and 1900B/1 for Scapa Flow. Two. Until further orders Force 'A' are to decipher messages for reserved block in addition to their own. (C. in C.H.F., 2301B/31 to C.S.1, S.O. Force A.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.N.Odd. Fighters have been despatched to assist convoy DAFFODIL. (Rosyth W/T 0538/31.)

Convoy F.S.55. Convoy BOOTY is being attacked by enemy a/c. My position 55° 36' N., 1° 28' W.) Course 125 Speed 6 knots. (VORTIGERN 0555/31.) Fighters sent. (Rosyth W/T 0604/31.) M.0555. 1 JU 88. 2 splashes observed 3 miles astern of convoy. A/C's retired to Northward. (VORTIGERN 0610B/31.)

Convoy W.N.Odd. Fighters are being sent to assist MATERIAL. (Rosyth 0719/31.)

Convoy E.C.53. Enemy aircraft bombing convoy PATTERN in 52° 53' N., 2° 7' E., course 301 speed 8 knots. (VIMIERA 2242/31.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

S.N.21C. — Arrivals Port ZA PORT QUEBEC, SCOTT.
(N.O.I.C. Port Z.A. 0446/31.)

Thames Estuary. — Two mines detonated as follows 30/7.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0900/31.)

Trevose Head l.m.f. — During the last few days at least seven floating mines have been sunk south of Lundy Island and about ten have been washed ashore and exploded in and around Barnstaple Bay. These mines are apparently MK 19 presumably from the deep field off Trevose Head.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1154/31.)

P.W.16. — Three M.T.B.s leave Dover at 2200 to operate between Berck Buoy and Fecamp returning to Dover at about 0600.
(V.A. Dover 1716B/31.)
Harwich departure M.T.B's 45, 47, 44.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2206B/31.)

Destroyers fitted with S.A. type A or C. — Will operate as follows:-
Station 4 Cables ahead of leading ship.
3. Destroyer acting as escorts to convoys are to sweep only between Sunk and Sheerness.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1854/31.)

Enemy Intelligence.

S/M tactics. — Trondheim. Eight to nine S/Ms reported exercising massed attacks on convoys in fjord about July 20th. B three.
(N.A. Stockholm 1609/31.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.7.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

AZALEA. Have ordered AZALEA to Gibraltar as she has serious engine defects her maximum speed 12 knots.
(WESTON 1946B/31 to C. in C. W.A.)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.10. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. Cancel A.M.1845B/22 and para. 4 of A.M.1846B/22. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is not to sail with W.S.10.
(1st. S.L., 0056B/31, to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.P., F.O.I.C., Belfast.)
A.F.O. 2338/41 para. 3 (a) and your 1917B/8. Request additional information vide your 0107B/29, para. 3 by noon/2nd.
(JUPITER, 1434B/31 to Admty.)
Bristol Channel portion of W.S.10 escorted by CAIRO arrived Clyde. Code word SAXHORN.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1815B/31 to F.O.Cardiff.)
Sailed Liverpool section W.S.10 escorted by WHITEHALL and WITCH. Codeword FUNNEL.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1830/31, to Admty., etc.)

O.N.2. Your 2201 B/28 and C.C.N.F.'s 1359 Z/29. Am sailing RIPLEY and ASSINIBOINE with O.N.2, request I may be informed if HESPERUS and RESTIGOUCHE now available for O.N. Convoy.
(A.C.I.C., 1136/31 to C. in C.W.A.)
Proposals in your 1136B/31 cannot be accepted owing to additional commitments. Comply with my 1109B/31.
(C. in C.W.A., 1534B/31, to A.C.I.C.)

S.C.37. Met as arranged, no stragglers. Commodore reports station - keeping very good despite difficult weather conditions and many alterations of course.
(D.T.D. 1832B/31 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
Numbers and cargoes. (D.S.694.)

H.X.138. On time at R/V. No stragglers. Convoy kept well together despite icebergs and continuous fog. (D.T.D.1833B/31 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
Numbers and cargoes. (D.S.694.)

/W.H. Convoys...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

W.N.Convoys. Following was despatched on 26/7 to C. in C.W.A., repeated to appropriate Naval Authorities and, inadvertently, was not repeated to you. "As from W.N.61, W.N. Convoys will start from Oban and not from Clyde" 0135B/26.
(D.T.D. 1853B/31 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.P.C.)

S.L. Convoys. Request if you think fit you will issue necessary instructions to U.K. escorts meeting SL. convoys from Bathurst on lines of W.A.C.I's part 133 para. 19 to 28 inclusive.
(C. in C. W.A., 2358B/31, to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

OLYMPUS, coaster sunk. P.C. and S. 37° 58' N., 04° (?36') E. 260° 7 knots, Am increasing to 11 knots 0300B/1 About 70 containers cracked by depth charges, am capable of diving and attacking. 5 torpedoes expended and 1 small Coaster sunk. (OLYMPUS, 0025B/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CORINTHIAN. Departure for patrol in area J Z 1 routed through (A) 035° 50' N., 006° 58' W. (B) 31.30, 16.00. (F.O.C.N.A., 0830B/31 to Admty).

ERIN, MIRROR. On leaving Azores Area proceed with MIRROR alongside parallel 038° 00' N., to 009° 30' W., thence to carry out repairs in 036° 06' N., 007° 46' W before proceeding to Plymouth. (F.O.C.N.A., 0951B/31 to ERIN).

Operation "Style" Departure 2345/30 AVON VALE, BROWN RANGER, 0200/31 HERMIONE, ARETHUSA, MANXMAN, SIKH, LIGHTNING for operation "STYLE" (F.O.C.N.A., 1006B/31 to Admty).

ATLAS German. Arrived Valencia 28th. (F.O.C.N.A., 1039B/31 to S/M O.24).

Canary Is. Coast defence information. Defences being strengthened etc. (Teneriffe 1110/31) See Lion Copy.

L'OBSTINE French Tug. 84 tons, left Lisbon 28/7 for high seas. (N.A. Lisbon, 1203/31 to Admty).

French Convoy. Passing eastbound 1228A escorted by French light cruiser LE FANTASQUE. French SAINT ALAIN ex GERDA TOFT, SAINT GERMAINE ex HADRIAN refrigerator ship BOREAL and BOURGES*(B.A.D. Washington's 1810R/17 and Consul General Tangier's 1930/25 to D.N.I.) * All laden. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1253B/31 to Admty amended 1721B/31).

ARRAN. My 0925B/30 (N.T. in W.D.) ARRAN serious defects returning to Gibraltar. Last destroyers part company in estimated 022° 52' N., 017° 05' W. at 2300B/(?3). (F.O.C.N.A., 1304B/31 to C. in C. S.A.)

/AVON VALE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

AVON VALE, BROWN RANGER, ST. DAY.	AVON VALE and BROWN RANGER left Gibraltar 2345B/30 routed through 180° Cape Gata 20 and 039° 15' N., 001° 00' E speed 12 knots. Fleet Tug ST. DAY leaves Gibraltar 2130/31 for patrol off Cape Gata, speed 9 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1310B/31 to OLYMPUS).
SEVERN.	Intend SEVERN to part company from H.G.69 at 2330 B (?31) to establish A/S diving patrol on line 000° 75 miles from position 104 Pansy 180 miles. S.B.R. will be arranged 20 miles either side of line. (F.O.C.N.A., 1632B/31 to Admty, 1634B/31 to SEVERN).
R.D.F. and aircraft co-operation. Attack on own A/C 23/7.	R.D.F. ships in Force H report that I.F.F. on code setting 1 cannot be picked up beyond visibility distance. This is considered reason why 2 Fulmar aircraft attacked Catalina aircraft 23/7. A/C from ARK ROYAL use code setting 5 which can be picked up distant 80 miles, so Signals Officer ARK ROYAL has requested that R.A.F. aircraf should use No. 5 when co-operating with their ships. Pending instructions from you, aircraft now co-operating with Force H use No. 5 but will use No. 1 when on normal R/C patrols. Gibraltar R.D.F. picks up No. 1 at average distance 55 miles. (200 Group, 1640/31 to Air Min.)
SITOEBONDO, SHAHRISTAN, unknown ship.	Master and 57 other survivors of Dutch SITOEBONDO landed Ponta Delgada from Spanish tanker CAMPECHE Ship torpedoed 0048 G.M.T./30 in 035° 19' N., 020° 53' W 19 missing. Master reports British SHAHRISTAN torpedoed and on fire 2335 G.M.T./29 same vicinity. A third ship name unknown torpedoed approx. 0130 G.M.T./30. In opinion of master more than one S/M was operating. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1655/31 to Admty).
St. Vincent Defences.	Reply to Admty 1915B/29. (B.C. St. Vincent, 1801/31 to Admty).
CLOVER.	After leaving Ponta Delgada pass through positions (A) 037° 23' N., 024° 18' W. (B) 020° 00' N., 021° 00' W., thence direct to Freetown or as ordered by C. in C. S.A. (F.O.C.N.A., 2004B/31 to CLOVER).
AZALEA.	P.C. and S. 042° 25' N., 022° 13' W., 125° 12. (AZALEA, 2300B/31 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

AFRICANA.
Italian.
Passed breakwater at 2115 G.M.T. course E. (Consul, Pernambuco, No T.O.O. recd. 0203/31 to Admty).

STELLA
Italian.
Pernambuco reports STELLA sailed and passed breakwater at 2305 G.M.T./30.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 0025Z/31 to R.A.S.A.D.)

STELLA,
HIMALAYA.
STELLA sailed from Pernambuco 2305Z/30.
HIMALAYA reported steering North at 1945Z/30.
(C. in C. S.A., 0101N/31 to S.A. Stn).

HIMALAYA.
Although HIMALAYA has received no further bunkers since embarking 300 tons Diesel Oil on 25/4 her cargo includes considerable quantities of vegetable oils which make excellent substitute. Ship clears for Hamburg only and has left behind quantities of cargo. Was being worked and all hatches open until within 50 minutes of clearing harbour entrance. (N.C.S.O., Rio de Janeiro 0941/31 to S.O.(I) Freetown).

HIMALAYA,
STELLA.
AFRICANA.
Left Rio de Janeiro 1900Z/30.
Sailed from Pernambuco 2305 G.M.T./30.
Left Pernambuco 2115 G.M.T./30. Descriptions.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1000/31 to S.A. Stn etc).

ORION
Programme.
Your 0903/30 and 1348/30 approved.
(C. in C. S.A., 1018N/31 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

SANGARA.
British 5445 tons, damaged by explosion (possibly torpedo) at Accra, Gold Coast, on 30/6, has broken her back during salvage and is now considered to be a total loss.(D.S., 695, 31/7).

GEFN Y BRYN.
Master reports speed of ship 6½ knots owing to very foul bottom after 7 weeks Port Said. In accordance with Admty 0001/1/5 para 15 sec. 1, request instructions. (N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1141B/31 to Admty).

W.S. 9 B.
Capetown departure 1515/30 QUEEN OF BERMUDA and portion Convoy W.S.9 B. for R/V at 0700/3 at outer end of Durban searched channel with GALATEA and portion of convoy from Durban.

/VILLE DE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

VILLE DE ROUEN. — (11) Capetown arrival 0001 and departure 0355/31 Vichy French VILLE DE ROUEN with armed guard for East London. E.T.A. P.M./3. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 12352/31 to Admty etc).

CAP PADARAN. (French). — Sighted in 19.24 S., 09.02 W., steering 130 on 15/7 outward from Dakar. Painted black with name on side amidships, French flag under bridge, funnel yellow with white band and star. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1419N/31 to S.O.(I) Colombo).

ALCANTARA. — Arrival Buenos Aires 1330Z/31. Intended time of sailing 1315Z/2. (ALCANTARA, 1632Z/31 to Admty).

German Ship. — Information (ungraded) received indicates that a German ship with cargo for Argentina may shortly be expected at Mar del Plata from Germany or France. (C. in C. S.A., 1657N/31 to S.A. Sqdn).

CILICIA. — Have tried covered sector 030° to (?014°) from Pernambuco without result. My position at 1900Z, 008° 03' S., 033° 00' W., proceeding East to 031° W., thence N., to exhaust 33 B, speed 15 knots. (CILICIA, 1900Z/31 to C. in C. S.A.)

Finnish ships. — A.M. 247A of 22/6 stands. All Finnish ships should be sent in with guard to British ports. Size of guard will depend on attitude of master and crew. If undertaking to proceed believed, guard may be small or token only. (C. in C. S.A., 1907N/31 to R.A.S.A.D.)

VULCAIN. — My 1335N/30/5 and N.C.S.I. 60. (A) VULCAIN (B) 0050 G.M.T./23/5 in 9° 20' N., 15° 35' W. (C and D) sunk with ship in laced weighted bag in Captain's Cabin. (E) 100 fathoms. (F) Ship was seen to sink. (G) Master torpedoed probably by submarine ship sunk in four minutes having been struck by one out of three torpedoes seen. Seven killed, thirteen arrived Freetown remaining twenty two detained French Guinea. (C. in C. S.A., 1942N/31 to Admty)

OUED GROU. (French). — Intercepted by VANSITTART off Bathurst 31/7, and is being taken to Freetown. (D.O.R., 1/8).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

GEORGIC. British, 27,759 tons, beached in Suez Bay on 14/7, now considered to be a total loss. (D.S. 695, 31/7).

Service Personnel Limit. Your 1744B/16/7. G.H.Q. Middle East enquire whether Indian (?follow) -ers are to be considered in limit of (?100) military personnel for unescorted vessels. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1000/31 to Admty).

French Convoy. 3 French ships will pass S. through Straits of Messina a.m./1 . These ships are not to be molested. (Cdr. S.1. 1057B/31 to UNIQUE).

ABDIEL. In order to make room for mines received in "SUBSTANCE" 45 mines mark XIV have been unmarried. Request adequate warning before operation in your 1356/30/4 is carried out. (V.A., Malta, 1101B/31 to C. in C. Med).

Operation "Guillotine". My 09020/26. Amend to read: serial 11. HYACINTH; serial 12. FLAMINGO; serial 13. H.M.A.S. PARRAMATTA. HYACINTH is to proceed Haifa on completion of serial 11. (C. in C. Med., 1155C/31 to S. and A., Operation "Guillotine").

Station Boundary. Text of your 10220/28 as received indicates that the boundary between stations has been moved to 26° 30' N., in order to allow S.N.O. Red Sea to control shipping in the Gulf of Suez. Request confirmation. (D.O.D. (F) 1313B/31 to C. in C. Med). Reply: 2334/1.

SAN JUAN sunk, collision. Following received from CITY OF SINGAPORE. "N.O.I.C. Suez from CITY OF SINGAPORE. Collided steamship SAN JUAN at 0500 position 028° 32' N., 033° 03' E., returning with crew saved, ship sunk. Please inform Bristow Suez Master". (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. T.H.I., 1400/30 to C. in C. Med).

Flag of R.A.A. Med. On departure of FORMIDABLE, flag of R.A.A. Med., was transferred to GREBE on 25/7. (C. in C. Med., 1415/31).

/Malta Mine.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Mine Loop.	No. 4 mine loop fired at 2332/30 after indication 5°. No visible result, investigation proceeding. (V.A. Malta, 1417B/31 to C. in C. Med., H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/31.)
Air raid on Messina.	Messina attacked with 2 G.P. bombs of 20 lbs calibre and 1 incendiary of 25 lbs. bursts seen on jetty side of a cruiser. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/31, 0745/1).
Tobruk air and mining raid 30/7.	Ref. C.A.F.O. (corrupt group) and C. in C. Med's 1850/25. Para (3) (A) Port closed 0015/31 (B) (C) (D) nil. Para (4) (A) 30/7, calm clear (B) At 1915 shallow dive attack 6 JU 88's, at 2315 high level attack, number and type unknown - moon first quarter. (C) (1) and (4) (D) 500 H/E bombs - 5 suspected mines W., of Boom (E) (F) (9) (H) (K) Nil. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk, 17270/31 to Admty).
Enemy Convoy.	4 Merchant ships 5 destroyers P.C. and S. 036° 38' N., 011° 55' E., 220° 9 knots at 1615. (S.O.(S), Malta, 1850B/31 to UNBEATEN).
Govt. personnel in unescorted M.V.s	Your 1744B/16/7. Para 2. (h) Owing to limitations service personnel to be disregarded in the case of ships of more than 18 knots speed in Indian Ocean and Australian Waters. (S.T.O. Egypt, 1910/31 to Admty).
BULLFINCH, cables.	G.H.Q. Middle East are pressing for use of BULLFINCH to pick up a lengh of Beirut Tunis cable to keep in reserve and use for operational purposes No spare cable is available in Mediterranean and it is understood that general shortage is acute. Picking up cable entails BULLFINCH leaving her work on indicator loop for a matter of 3 weeks but this moment with good weather and reduced enemy air activity appears to be best chance. As operations must necessarily involve a certain degree of risk to BULLFINCH, request information re obtaining a hundred miles or so of spare cable. (C. in C. Med., 1911C/31 to Admty).
Assistance to Russia.	Head Air Mission Moscow 1949/31 2205/31. See Lion Copy.
OTTO LEONHARDT (German).	Arrival 30/7 from Genoa 0007. (Valencia T.H.I., 2230/31 to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Troop Convoys. Your 0705/30 concur. Convoy will be known as C.M. 16 A and B.
(C.in C. E.I., 0954Z/31 to D.S.T.O. Mombasa).

Vichy Ships - Policy. My 0528 and my 0530 12 November. (i) All Vichy French ships met on E.I. Station are to be sent into British port under armed guard. They are not however to be sent into any South African port other than Simonstown. (ii) Arrival is to be reported to Admty repeated to C. in C. E.I., and ships to be detained pending further instruction. A summary of the Manifest is to be signalled separately to same addressees.
(C. in C. E.I., 1230Z/31 to E.I. Station.)

Cruiser for Persian Gulf. ARMS INDIA have asked what notice I should require to send a Cruiser into Persian Gulf. With AUSTRALIA or EXETER in mind I have replied that Cruiser is available for immediate despatch from Aden up till about 10/8 in an emergency, but that I am reluctant to tie up such valuable forces in a remote part of my Station. I have suggested KANIMBLA who will be off Persian Gulf on 5/8 as possible substitute.
(C. in C. E.I., 1340Z/31 to Admty).

Bunker Ports. Reply to Chiefs of Staff No. 146. (C. in C. E.I., 1730Z/31 to Admty).

Intelligence Centre. For Chiefs of Staff. Ref. Middle East 953 of 26/7 T.C.O. 1630/26. I agree in principle to proposed reorganisation of the M E I C from naval point of view on East Indies Station. I have agreed to Cdr. J.G. Arbuthnott (R.N.) (retired) being naval representative on the centre for both Mediterranean and East Indies Station. (C. in C. E.I., 1732Z/31 to Admty).

China.

M.V.s breaking W/T silence. Dutch Naval Authorities suggest merchant ships bound to ports on west coast of America should be allowed to break W/T silence when within 12 hours of destination to report T.of A. Request remarks.
(C. in C. China, 0355Z/31 to C. in C. A.W.I.,)
Reply, 1312/1.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 31.7.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

NIKOLINA MATKOVIC.	My 2057Z/25. Yugoslav NIKOLINA MATKOVIC arrived Sydney C.B. 29/7. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0101Z/31 to Admty).
PRINCE DAVID, DOMINION MONARCH.	PRINCE DAVID will arrive Curacao 1300Q/8 to be ranged for D/G on arrival. DOMINION MONARCH E.T.A. Curacao 9/8 or 10/8 to fuel, should also be ranged if this can be done without undue delay. PRINCE DAVID is then to escort DOMINION MONARCH to Halifax. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0921Q/31 to PRINCE DAVID, 0922Q/31 to S.N.O. Curacao.)
PRINCE ROBERT.	My 1202Q/28. In view of N.A. Santiago de Chile's 1855/30 PRINCE ROBERT is being ordered to Talara to fuel. (Probable date) (C. in C. A.W.I., 0931Q/31 to N.A., Santiago de Chile etc).
GUINE.	F.O.C.N.P., 0946/29 re GUINE. M.E.W. agreed to embarkation of refugees at Casablanca provided list was approved by H.M. Consul Lisbon. Not clear yet whether condition was fulfilled. Enquiries are being made of Lisbon. (D.E.W.D., 1108B/31 to C. in C. A.W.I.).
LACONIA, CHITRAL.	LACONIA will not now be available until 9/8. Intend CHITRAL to proceed to Bermuda with provisions, personnel for passage and fresh water leaving Halifax A.M/2 and arriving 1000Q/4. Request CHITRAL may be sailed as necessary arriving off Partridge Island St. John (N.B.) 1200Q/11 for docking and refit. (F.O. 3 B.S., 1359P/31 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
Greek ships, Wabana.	C.C.N.F.'s 1828Z/30. Only satisfactory solution at present appears to be to keep Greek ships out of Newfoundland Trade as far as possible. Ships in Canadian waters can be dealt with strongly. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1516Z/31 to Admty).
FORT DE FRANCE.	Arrival 31st. (San Juan, P.R., 1727/31).
HARPERLEY.	Radio Operator HARPERLEY was instructed by C.P.O. telegraphist at Gourock that any instruction issued at Halifax regarding sealing of W/T receiver were to be disregarded and seals were to be broken. This is the second instance of this occurrence and definite instructions are requested. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1821Z/31 to Admty).

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

HAMMARLAND. My 1722R/30, Tampico reports sailing permit refused by port authorities reasons unknown. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2314R/31 to Admty, C. in C. A.W.I., D.N.I. Ottawa).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

O.G.69
SITOEBONDO.
SHAHRISTAN. Survivors.

Re torpedoing.
(N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1655/31). See North Atlantic.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

INVERNESS (sunk 7/7).	Now known sunk in 42.46 N., 32.45 W., on 9/7, not 7/7. 6 of crew killed or missing, others have arrived Azores. (D.S. 695, 31/7).
CANADIAN STAR.	Your 1229Q/30 not to Admty. CANADIAN STAR arrived p.m./30 with damage in after peak, funnel and forecastle head from submarine attack in 049° 15' N., 021° 00' W., no casualties. Effecting repairs here. (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1110QR/31 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
O.G.69. ERATO, INGA I.	C.A.F.O. 770/40. (1) British S.S. ERATO torpedoed 2356B/26 approx. 43° 10' N., 17° 30' W. Ship sank in 4 minutes no likelihood of compromise of C.B.'s. Nine of crew missing. 2. Norwegian S.S. INGA I, torpedoed 0002B/27th approx. 43° 10' N., 17° 30' W., wireless office books went down in ship which sank in 2 minutes. Possible that Masters books and documents may have floated clear of the ship. Three of crew missing. 3. Both ships convoy O.G.69. (A.C.N.A., 1234B/31 to Admty).
LAPLAND (torpedoed 28/7).	Arrival RHODODENDRON with 10 survivors from LAPLAND. Details later. (F.O.C.N.A., 1430B /31 to Admty).
IDA KNUDSEN. (torpedoed 21/7.)	Norwegian, 8913 tons, hit by 4 torpedoes on 21/7 while proceeding independently from Trinidad for Gibraltar. Now presumed sunk. (D.S. 695, 31/7)
VULCAIN (sunk 23/5).	C. in C. S.A., 1942N/31. See South Atlantic.

Submarines Reported.

1000	Am over enemy submarine in 46° N., 9° W., 150 O.H. (A/C duty A., 1000/31 to 19 Group H.Q.) Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge bearing 114° Request instructions. (A/C duty A., 1018/31 to 19 Group H.Q.) Enemy U-boat 46° N., 9° W., 200L course 300° M surfacing. (A/C duty A., 1059/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)

/A.M./31.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

31.7.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

A.M./31. A U-boat was reported in the vicinity O.N.2 this morning. (C. in C. W.A., 1134B/31 to Escort O.N.2).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1352B/31).

WWWW Oil trail 55.38 N., 7.10 W., Proceeding.
(? A/C of Gp. 19 Call sign V6T 1400/31 to Aldergrove).
Am over enemy submarine in 46.45N., 10.10 W., Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and seen to submerge.
(A/C Duty P (VIZP) 1503/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Have lost touch with enemy submarine, last seen in (same position)
(A/C Duty P., 1520/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CAPE PORTLAND. 1 S/M submerged bearing 270°. My position 60.15 N. 9.42 W., (CAPE PORTLAND, 0250B/31 to Scapa).
S/M contact B7 H.E. at 0250B course 270° speed 10 position 060° 15' N., 009° 42' W., S/M submerged contact lost, carrying out search, bad anti-S/M conditions. (CAPE PORTLAND, 0415B/31 to S.O.T.N.P.)
Your 0415/31, expect one Catalina to co-operate in search. (C. in C. W.A., 0741B/31 to CAPE PORTLAND).

0936. One Submarine submerged in 48.20 N., 08 .50 W.
(A/C duty F., 0936/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)
My 0936. Enemy submarine has dived (same position have attacked with 3 depth charges, negative result. (A/C duty F., 0945/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Enemy submarine previously reported periscope only sighted (? and observed to submerged)
(A/C duty F., 1017/31 to 19 Group H.Q.)

By CITY OF AUCKLAND. 7/7. British CITY OF AUCKLAND reports action with U-boat on 7/7 in 33° 014' N., 31° 021' W. U-boat fired twenty rounds, all near misses causing superficial damage. CITY OF AUCKLAND replied with three rounds last of which appeared to hit, causing U-boat to break off action.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1510B/31 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

All operations by Bomber Command last night were cancelled on account of bad weather.

Successful attacks were made today on ships off the coast of France and Belgium.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two trawlers were bombed at 1445B today off Nolso (Faeroes). One of them, LOCH LEE, was slightly damaged.

Three ships about to join F.S. 57 were bombed 2330 in the Tyne Examination Anchorage. S.S. TRIDENT was hit and sank later, and LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY has a U.X.B. on board.

Longstone Lighthouse and Fog Signal were extensively damaged by air attack by F.W. Condor this afternoon.

Mining.

Operation P.W.16.

Three M.T.B.'s from Dover operated between Berck Buoy and Fecamp last night.

Navigation in the Thames is now normal.

North Atlantic.

Work on the defences of the Azores and Canary Is. is being pressed on.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operation Style.

Day 3, MAORI (detached 1630/31 from Force H) entered Port Conte at 0210 today and bombarded the seaplane slipway and buildings. COSSACK entered Alghero and found no shipping present. 9 Swordfish from Force H attacked the aerodrome

It is thought that Force H was sighted and reported by aircraft at 0940B, but low visibility and severe thunder storm afforded good cover for the remainder of the day. The weather was unsuitable for oiling and BROWN RANGER was ordered to proceed to a position south of the Balearic Is., where two destroyers oiled.

Malta.

6 aircraft were over Malta last night; little material damage was caused.

Libya & Western Desert.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. There were two air raids on Tobruk today, but very little damage was caused.

Lampedusa.

In an attack by Blenheims on shipping at Lampedusa this afternoon, 2 M/Vs of 3,000 tons were hit by 4 bombs. 1 Blenheim was shot down.

Attacks on Convoys.

5 Swordfish last night attacked with torpedoes a convoy of 4 merchant vessels and 5 destroyers which had been sighted yesterday and unsuccessfully attacked by Swordfish south of Pantellaria, a possible hit was obtained on a 5,000 ton merchant vessel, though the convoy was later sighted intact. A force of Blenheims was despatched to make a further attack, but did not intercept the convoy.

UPHOLDER reports that at 1418/24/7 she sank an east bound 6,000 ton laden merchantman escorted by a destroyer in 38° 8' N., 12° 37' E. At 1951/28 she attacked in 38° 4' N., ? 11° 57' E., a formation consisting of 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers. No details are known.

Canal Area.

A few enemy planes raided the Canal area in the early hours of today. No material damage was caused. Mines are thought to have been dropped in one of the lakes. The Canal situation is normal and both terminal ports are open.

Capt. D.14 reported being bombed at 1816 today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack on O.G.69.

From a fuller report by F.O.C.N.A., it appears that 7 ships from Convoy O.G.69 were sunk between 0030/27 and 2127/28 - KELWYN, HAWKINGE, ERATO, INGA I, WROTHAM, LEYLAND and NORITA.

3 others, SHEAFCROWN, RUTH I, and PELAYO, were dispersed by Commodore's order. (SHEAFCROWN and PELAYO arrived at Gibraltar on 2/8). During this attack, 3 U-boats were sighted simultaneously on the surface, and all retired on the surface when chased, keeping just outside gun range.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

PEGASUS. Your 0915B/31. Concur in PEGASUS being at three days notice for operations. (A.C.N.S. H., 1958B/1).

Flag of R.A.M. Flag of R.A. (M) will be transferred from AGAMEMNON to SOUTHERN PRINCE at 0900/2. (Head of M., 2146B/1).

Co-operation with Russia.

Anti-Mining, Devices. Proposed exchange of information. (Ad. Miles 1044/1) See Operations Volume.

British request for shipping information. Following for Admiral Miles. Request any available information of state of enemy shipping and patrol craft on the Northern Norwegian Coast between 21°, and 27° E., Soviet air R/C of this area today or tomorrow would be of considerable value. (D.N.I., 1211B/1 to N.A. Moscow). Following for Admiral Miles. My 1211B/1. Request continuous information of enemy sea and air patrols off North and North Western Norway and of shipping movements. This is essential for operations off this coast. (D.D.I.C. 2342B/1 to N.A. Moscow).

Military Situation. (No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow 1940/1) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

SUTLEJ JUMNA. Cancel my 1648B/31. Intend sailing SUTLEJ and JUMNA at 0500B/2 to comply with your 1827B/31. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1029B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

VASA HOLM SATURNUS SVEADROTT CANADIA (Swedish Ships) My 1807/31. Positions at 0001 today. (N.A. Stockholm, 1139/1).

ESPERANCE BAY Precautions. Escorted by 2 Destroyers with S.A. Gear passes May Island 0001/4, due B.6 Buoy 0900, Thames Gate 1200/5. All practical arrangements are to be made to safe guard ship from mines. Magnetic mine sweeps should be carried out between centre line channel and 2 cables west of centre line, particularly where depth of water is less than 15 fathoms. (C. in C. Nore, 1220B/1).

/SEALION.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SEALION. — Intend to sail SEALION on completion of exercises in Dartmouth Sanctuary 5/8 for patrol in Bay of Biscay. Route. (Capt. S.5. 1623B/1).

ARNA. (Icelandic Trawler). — Your 1201/27/7. Ship sailed 14.6 for Siglufjordur. Probably taken off fish carrying for herring fishery. (D.N.I., 1831B/1 to A.C.O.S.)

Operations.

Operation E.F.V.4. — Your 1925B/31. No fighters west of Kirkenes. 30 JU 88 at Banak, 30 more expected. No immediate R/C available. Shipping at Tromso and leads in vicinity appear preferable target. (C. in C. H.F., 0357B/1 to C.S.1.)
C.S.I.'s 1925B. Request Russians may be asked for continuous information of enemy shipping and of sea and air patrls off North and North Western Norwegian Coast. This is essential for effective operation off coast both for carriers and Force A. (C. in C. H.F., 1416B/1 to Admty).

Exercise LEAPFROG. — Alterations and particulars. (D.C.O., 1057B/1 to H.Q.O.S.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — TROST now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1135/1).
(1) A/S Patrol in area West of Orkneys being flown from 1300/1 to 0500/2.
(2) Vow A and B now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1328/1).
STAB in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1700/1).
STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2132/1)

New Patrol SKROO. — Add to Standard patrols. Particulars.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2308/1) See Summaries Folder.

Bombing operations. — Night 31/1. All operations cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C., 1410/1).

American fighter aircraft shortly arriving in Iceland (c) are probably unable to make any recognition signals.
2. All ships in the vicinity and shore defences who are likely to sight these aircraft should be warned accordingly.
(D.O.D. H. 1950B /1).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

ONWARD. (Grimsby Trawler). Reports having been attacked by enemy aircraft 20 miles East of Nolso at 1315 B/31. Three bombs dropped and machine gun attacks made. No casualties and slight damage only. (A.C.I.C., 0100B/1).

Longstone Lighthouse. and Fog Signal damaged. District Officer C.K. Berwick reports, extensive damage Longstone Fog Signal and building by enemy bombing. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1645/1).
My 1645/1. Damage to Longstone Lighthouse also reported to be extensive. Light cannot be exhibited until further notice.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1759/1).
Your 1645/1 and 1759/1. Coastguard Berwick reports all keepers from Longstone Light Landed Seahouses 1905. No casualties. Extensive damage to engine room. Light not available. Two direct hits, one bomb believed unexploded. Aircraft four engined Condor. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2022/1 to C. in C. Rosyth).

LOCH LEE (Trawler) damaged. Aberdeen trawlers LOCH LEE and ROSS KEEN report attacked by aircraft about 3 miles S.E. Nolso at 1445B/1. 4 bombs dropped. LOCH LEE slightly damaged. Otherwise no damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1920B/1).

LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY (British 3176 tons). A A A A Automatic A A A A Heard. (Cullercoats, 2130/1).
S.O.S., Off H.1. buoy. Require immediate assistance (Cullercoats, 2136/1).

Mining.

Operation F.W.16. Arrival M.T.B. 46.44.47. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0636B/1).

Thames Estuary. One S.A. mine detonated at 2224/31. Details. (Capt. Sheerness 0925/1).

River Thames. The navigational warnings given in my 1345/8/4/41 0210/17/4, 0848/12/5, 1246/11/4, and 1835/25/4 are cancelled.
Navigation in the river is now normal, but all ships are warned to keep to the centre of the main channel. (F.O.I.C. London, 1520/1).

Enemy Intelligence.

M/V off Trondheim. 9,000 ton passenger ship escorted by one destroyer and two A/C ME 109 steering 045° at 9 knots in 63° 22' N., 7° 16' E at 1235/1 A/C report. (Pitreavie, 1535/1).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Use of word "delete"

When word "delete" is used in reference to Outward Vessels, Convoy sailing telegrams etc. it is an indication that the ships referred to have been sunk. In all other cases some other term is used to indicate cancellation of voyage or alternatively the actual reason for any delay is stated. (D.T.D., 0817B/1 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

S.C.37.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of S.C.37. (C. in C. W.A., 1430B/1 to R.A. Creighton).

H.X.138.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. your convoy H.X.138. (C. in C. W.A., 1431B/1 to Commodore MacRae, R.N.R.)

DAFFODIL.

Anticipate DAFFODIL (Valuable) ready to proceed to Oban at 1800/2 for inclusion in W.N. convoy to Aultbea. (F.O.I.C., Greenock, 1554B/1).

W/T messages from M.V.S

Admiralty message GG. Except when making distress messages or in other cases of extreme urgency, merchant ships should not transmit any W/T messages in plain language. (D.T.D., 16360.M.T./1 and 1838B/1).

Sealing of W/T receivers.

Following signal has been received from C.O.A.C. Halifax. Radio Operator HARPERLEY was instructed by C.P.O. telegraphist at Goureck that any instructions issued at Halifax regarding sealing of W/T receivers were to be disregarded and seals were to be broken. This is the second instance of this occurrence and definite instructions are requested. 1821Z/31. Request your early remarks. (D.T.D., 1714B/1 to N.C.S.O. Gourock.)

CITY OF LANCASTER.

Will complete loading important military stores at Birkenhead and will be ready to leave on 4/8.
2. C. in C. W.A., is requested to arrange for her to be sailed in the appropriate convoy to Scapa, providing extra A/A escort as requisite (A.C.N.S. H. 2031B/1).

Convoy W.S.10 X.

Particulars (V.C.N.S. 2336B/1)
See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Sinking of TOTTENHAM. My 1911B/22nd July. Interrogation of survivors from TOTTENHAM shows that this ship was not sunk by 16 (Raider C) but by a smaller vessel, (Description). General impression similar to No. 10 (SANTA CRUZ) though No. 10 thought to be still in Germany.
German Prisoners of War suggest No. 16 will remain at sea till October and may be in North Atlantic at present. Graded B.2. (D.D.I.C., 1616B/1).

North Atlantic.

French convoys. Passing Gibraltar, 30/7, 31/7. Details in D.O.R. 1/8.

Cape Gata Patrol. Fleet Tug ST. DAY sailed 2230B/31 to patrol in area off Cape Gata. (F.O.C.N.A., 1026B/1).

Force H reported. At 0340B/1 Italian A/C made sighting report of force consisting of three type vessels. Probably force "H".
(F.O.C.N.A., 1114B/1 to S.O. Force H).

Refits at Gibraltar. Your 0301N/20/7/41. Owing to very large commitment and extremely small staff at Gibraltar impossible to undertake refits of destroyers and corvettes. No prospect of any six-monthly dockings being undertaken. (A.S. Gib., 1314B/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

Crews of ESPERANCE, ALBI, INDO-CHINA. My 1955/26. History of crews of INDO-CHINOIS and ESPERANCE is as follows. We are awaiting definite news of ALBI crew which are understood to have been landed at Duala in October last. This information should be passed to French N.A. and immediate assurances requested about amazing suggestions in connection with PARRACOMBE and other British merchant-ship crews.
(Head of M., 1351B/1 to NA. Madrid).

BEVERLEY. My 1522B/27. Am assuming that fuel for BEVERLEY at Ponta Delgada on A.M./3 has been arranged.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1414B/1 to Admty).

Canary Islands. Your 19158/29. Beach defences, being pressed. Beach south of island wired and trenched defended by Pillbox. Fixed coast defence at various points of S.E. coast, and other strategic points includin Isleta Port Laluz heavily defended.

/Permanent.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Canary Island. Contd.
Permanent seaplane base at Laluz and Gando. Emergency seaplane base at Arguineguin south of island. 2 emergency aircraft landing grounds being prepared south of island.
Fuel and other stocks are held and being maintained but abnormal accumulation.
No mark of German or Italian infiltration and no evidence of future enemy intentions.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1730/1 to Admty).

HIGHLANDER.
Intend sailing HIGHLANDER with H.G. 70 on 8/8. HIGHLANDER to part company as requisite to fuel at Ponta Delgada subsequently rejoining H.G.70 and providing escort as far as endurance permits.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1802B/1 to Admty).

AMERIKA. LEINSTER.
A.T., 1634B/26 paragraph (D)
A/S escort from W.S.10 is expected to be in position 46° North 21° West at 0800B/6/8.
2. Can you sail AMERIKA and LEINSTER to R/V with this escort?
(D.O.D. F., 1823B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1823B/1. No local escort available.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2042B/1 to Admty).

BEVERLEY.
Your 1414B/1. Yes. See my 1345B/28 July.
(D.O.D. F., 1903B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

DERNA. JOSE TRUJILLO.
Italian steamship DERNA left Barcelona 30th for Genoa. Spanish steamship JOSE TRUJILLO left Valencia 29th for Genoa.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1936B/1 to S/M O.24).

MANCHESTER.
Request you report date when MANCHESTER will be ready to sail for refitting port on completion of temporary repairs.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1943B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

BALTA.
After leaving Horta proceed through the following positions. Thence as ordered by C. in C. S.A.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2019B/1 to BALTA).

O.G. 69.
Report of attacks by F.W. A/C and U/B 27/7 and 28/7. (F.O.C.N.A., 2040B/1 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

RAMON ALONSO R. intercepted.
Your 0313B/1st. Have intercepted RAMON ALONSO R. Almeria to Gijon. Not been cleared. Request instructions. (LOCH OSKAIG, 2130A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

CEDARDALE.	Ref. forthcoming docking CEDARDALE in U.S.A. instruct Master that only repairs for seagoing efficiency and items already approved should be taken in hand. (Dir. of Stores 0101B/1 to N.O.I.C. Freetown).
A/C for Free French.	Consider aircraft for coastal R/C should be made available for Free French in (? West Africa) as soon as practicable. If no other aircraft available Walrus would be welcomed and Naval Air Arm crews. (C. in C. S.A., 0127N/1 to Admty).
VILLE DE ROUEN, French.	Arrived. (Capetown, 0848/1 to M. of W.T.)
Para.	Admty 1954B/7. Para 4. Submit harbour limit for Para be established as Salinas Point Pilot Station 000° 27' S., 047° 25' W. (N.C.S.O., Para, 1551/1 to Admty).
HIGHLANDER.	My 1319/30. HIGHLANDER further delayed. Will not now arrive Gibraltar until 5/8. (C. in C. S.A. 1927N/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)
?	Your 1141B/31. Ministry of War Transport have instructed Campbell to dry dock ship. (D.T.D., 2032B/1 to N.C.S.O. Capetown).
W.S. 10 W.S. 11	The large number of ships in convoys W.S.10 and W.S.11 will necessitate splitting in each case to enable some ships to replenish at Capetown. (D.O.D. (F), 2048B/1 to C. in C. S.A.)
WIPUNEN.	Your 1536Z/30, Master should be pressed to sell cargo locally and charter to U.S. Firm. Purchase of ship impracticable at present for political reasons. If vessel trades with approval Maritime Commision Navy will not interfere with her. (D. of S.T. 2255B/1 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of enemy, 5 destroyers, 4 merchant vessels, 34.30 N., 12.05 E. 155 10.
(A/C No. 1., E. Sqdn, 0610/1 to Hal Far).

Canal Area. Egypt Night 31 July/August 1. About 8 enemy aircraft operated over Delta and Suez. Canal Zone. Some bombs dropped between Kabrit and Suez. 2 Bombs dropped near Helmia near Heliopolis. One bomb dropped Alexandria. No damage reported. Fighters sent up from Ismailia but no interceptions Western Desert. Night 30/31st July. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting explosions and fires on docks one being visible for 50 miles. 2 Wellingtons bombed Gazala and Bardia starting explosions at latter.
Day 31/7. Hurricanes provided covering patrols over shipping off Egyptian Coast. Reconnaissances of Eastern Cyrenaica. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1013/1).

Canal Area. Air raid 0200 to 0330. 10 enemy (?group omitted) on passage to South eastwards. 1 presumed damaged which subsequently turned back and dropped mines in lake on way north.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1027C/1).

Cruiser and Tanker. Cruiser and Tanker about 9 knots expected to pass Messina south-bound afternoon/2. Remain on patrol until 2100 unless sighted previously and arrive Malta a.m./4.
(S.O.S/Ms Malta, 1044B/1 to UNIQUE).
My 1044B/1. Convoy is proceeding Crete via West Coast Greece. (S.O.S/Ms Malta, 1136B/1 to UNIQUE.)
My 1044B/1st. If you have choice cruiser should be primary target.
(Comdr. (S) 1. 2050B/1 to UNIQUE).

Vichy convoy from Toulon. My 1118C/30. Ships will now pass point shown as follows. (b) Early evening 1/8. (c) About 0001/2 (d) About 0800/3. (e) 30 miles south of Cape Gata Cyprus about 1730/4 August to arrive Beirut A.M./5 All times G.M.T. N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports pass to H.Q. Palestine and Trans Jordan. N.O.I.C. Syria pass to F.O.A.M. (C. in C. Med., 1147C/1 1149C/1 to Med. Fleet).

/UPHOLDER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UPHOLDER, M/V sunk cruiser torpedoed.	UPHOLDER reports at 1418/24 fired 3 torpedoes at eastbound 6,000 ton laden M/V escorted by one destroyer in 38.08, 12.37, ship sank 2 hours later. 1951/28 in position 038° 04' 11' 57' attacked 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers. Formation consisted of one GARIBALDI class followed by one DUCA D'AOSTA in line ahead, steady course 28 knots, with destroyers zigzagging on either bow at very high speed. Four mark 4 (35 knot) torpedoes fired from 4,000 yards resulting in two hits on second ship. One destroyer counter attacked while other made smoke round damaged ship. At 2100 destroyer was still circling attack position making both funnel and chemical smoke. At 0352/29 in 038° 28' 012° 14' (?fired) last torpedo at northbound (?empty) convoy of 4 M/V's and three destroyers, torpedo missed ahead. At 0415/30 observed both (?heavy) and light A/A fire also searchlight (?from) Trapani. It is understood that Trapani was not attacked by R.A.F. that night. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1153B/1 to Capt. S.1.)
URSULA, patrol.	URSULA reports that at 0410/29/7 whilst attacking escorted Southbound Convoy in 034° 52', 012° 10' URSULA forced to dive to avoid destroyers and attack abandoned. It appears during this Patrol Convoys passed about 20 miles to East of Kerkenah No.4 Buoy. (S.O.(S) Malta 1203B/1.)
Vichy Ships in Turkey.	Following from Adm Kelly. Your 1130/30. These ships will be moved about 15/8, date being communicated to all interested powers. They will either be manned by Turkish naval ratings or have strong guard on board and will be armed with machine guns. Turkish naval escort will be provided. No prospect of ships being seized at Erdok until Turkey collapses when Marshal informed me they would be sunk. (N.A.Angora, 1237C/1 to C.in C. Med.)
Canal area.	Secret estimate 5 - 6 planes raided Canal area 0315C to 0430C/1. Flares dropped in Suez Bay. 2 U X M or bombs reported in Suez roads and 5 exploded on impact. No material damage. Cana situation normal and both terminal ports open. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1255C/1.)

/Syrian .....

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Syrian Coast defence.	Re gradual taking over by Free French. Requirements. (N.O.I.C. Syria Ports 1423/1) See Lion Copy.
Convoy.	Convoy of 6 merchant ships might arrive Rhodes from West about 0300/2. (Capt.(s) 1 15190/1 to TRITON.)
Malta.	Night 31/7 - 1/8. 6 aircraft over. Little material damage, no casualties.
Convoy attacked by Swordfish.	31/7 - 1/8. Convoy 4 M/V's 5 Drs. located intact after Swordfish attack during 0610 hours 80 miles South of Lampion southbound.
LITTORIO at Taranto.	Taranto two LITTORIO, one has steam up and inner nets removed raised Cavour B.S. from floating dock is now opposite Graving Dock.
Swordfish attack on Convoy.	31/7/6 Blenheims re located convoy M.V.S. 5 Drs. south of Pantellaria unable to attack owing strong fighter escort which attacked Blenheims before reaching target later during night 5 Swordfish attacked same convoy two torpedoes realeased 1 possibly scoring hit on 5,000 ton M.V. causing explosion and short fire further results not seen, 6 Blenheims failed to locate convoy in bad visibility. a.m.1/8. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1600/1, V.A. Malta 1615B/1)
?GEORGIC	At 1116/30/7. Ship submerged to bridge level. After deck and sides blown outward, probably total loss. Canal Company divers are making survey and will report on possibility of salvage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1724C/1.)
DERNA. (Italian)	Left 30/7 Genoa. (Barcelona T.H.I. 1739/31 to M. of W.T.)
Vichy Convoy from Toulon.	Convoy Z of 3 French 9000 ton merchant ships expected 180° Gavdo Island 10 at 1100C/3 thence to 30 miles southwards Cape Gata Cyprus S. of A. 15 knots. Do not molest. (Capt. S.I. 17450/1 to RORQUAL, Greek S/M TRITON.)

/Mines .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Mines at Tobruk. C. in C. Med. 1850/25. Harbour area and channel swept with L.L. sweep during nights 30th to 31st and 31st to 1st. 1 magnetic mine detonated 2118/31 1 cable S.S.E SAN GIORGIO wreck. Sweep S.A. gear at present sufficient. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk 1758/1 to Adty.)

Capt. (D) 14. 3 Shad enemy aircraft bombing (or have dropped bombs) bearing of enemy from ship TPXD 4509 - 238 - 24. (Position indecipherable) (D.14 1616/1.)
Owing to apparent danger of air attack am sending fighter to protect you if we can find you. (204 Group 1831/1 to D.14.)

Operation "Style". Following for information and as W/T diversion MAORI entered Port Conte at 0210/1 and bombarded seaplane slipway and buildings. COSSACK entered Alghero. No shipping present fired star shells one of which set alight building on outskirts of town. 9 Swordfish attacked aerodrome hits on building and eastern hangar, no aircraft seen. All aircraft returned. RENOWN, NELSON. (See Mediterranean Volume.) (S.O. Force H. 1856B/1)

M.T.B's (C. in C. Med. 1901C/1) See Mediterranean Volume.

TRITON. Owing to numerous defects, report having to leave patrol area a.m./1. Will arrive Alexandria Sanctuary at approx.0900/4. Confirm recognition signals series S.P.02291 K to S.P.02297 K. is not in force as from 1/8. (TRITON 2100C/1 to Capt.(S)1)

Information for UNIQUE. A/C R/C Taranto 1/8 shows 1 LITTORIO with 1 set of nets removed and steam up. (Comdr.(S) 1. 2142B/1 to UNIQUE.)

Station Boundary. Your 1313/31. My 1022C/28 was corrected at 0933/30 to read S.B.N.O.C.A.(C. in C. Med.2334/1 to Adty.)

Situation Report 104. Western Desert. Capt.(D) 14 with four destroyers carrying out A/S sweep of area off Bardia. Supply service to Tobruk recommenced.
2. Submarines. TETRARCH on patrol in Aegean bombarded enemy shipping in Karlouassi Harbour Samos p.m./22 and attacked with guns Caique flying Nazi flag and full of soldiers on 27th. Caique left burning fiercely. Request no mention.
3. Alexandria. Minelaying raid 2115 to 2230 tonight. 1/8. (C. in C. Med. 2355C/1 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

1.8.41.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Enemy S/M. at Djibouti.
My 11436/27/7. S.N.O.R.S. reports that a Somali deserter from Djibouti states S/M was bringing food and arrived there 6/7. Air R/C failed to locate today. If another R/C tomorrow draws blank it will be a reasonable assumption S/M has returned to Madagascar. (C. in C. E.I., 1040Z/1 to Admty.)

W.S.9. A.X.
Arrived 1300Z/1/8. (Troops for Singapore.) (N.C.S.O. Colombo, 1318Z/1, to Admty., etc.)

FOREST.
Have you any news of FOREST. Due Aden 22/7. (D.O.D. 1717B/1, to N.C.S.O. Aden.) Reply 1505/3.

Shipping.
A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B/1 to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B., See Operations Volume.

Cruiser for Persian Gulf.
Your 1340Z/31. Request information as to why cruiser may be required. (V.C.N.S. 2359/1 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

G.G.PASQUIER French.
Arrival 31/7. (Singapore, 04212/1, to M. of W.T.)

D'ARTAGNAN. (French.)
No.117/1/8. Arrived. (Manila, 06372/1, to M. of W.T.)

French Ships.
Departure 1/8 BERNARDIN de ST. PIERRE, Shanghai 1/8; COMPIEGNE, Madagascar. (Saigon, 0820Z/1, to M. of W.T.)

Pacific Shipping.
For N.C.S.O's. An increase in ? Eastbound British and Allied Merchant Shipping is to be expected principally from Singapore Area to Panama. This shipping is to be routed through Torres Strait and South of Gilberts, Oil Burners Bunker if necessary at Honolulu and Coal Burners at East Coast Australian Ports.

/(2) Other.....

War Diary. 1.8.41. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping Pacific. Contd.

(2) Other trans-Pacific Shipping is to be kept well clear of Japanese Controlled Waters, any doubtful route being referred for C. in C's approval. Ships from Philippine Islands Area may follow Clipper route to 170°E.
(3) Shipping on Ocean routes is to be well spread.
(C. in C. China, 0901Z/1, to S.O.I's Singapore etc.)

Indo-China. Minute to Ambassador, re military aspect of Japanese occupation.
(M.A. Tokyo, 1130/31 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.

Shipping. A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B/1 to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B. See Operations Volume.

America & West Indies.

Bunkers for Japanese Ships. S.O.I. Callao requests instructions as to supplying bunkers to Japanese Ships homeward bound via Magellan.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 0025R/1 to Adty.)

Dispositions. A. & W.I., State 1/8. (C. in C. A.W.I., 12420/1 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.

ATLAS. Italian renamed LAS CHOAPAS Mexican Flag sailed Puerto Mexico 30/7 in tow tug MEXICO. Being used as barge until machinery repairs completed.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1257R/1. to Admty., etc.)

MANCHESTER, FIREDRAKE. Can be accepted for repairs in addition to ships expected for normal refit. No refitting ports can be given until approx., dates of arrival of ships are known.
(B.A.R.M., 1258R/1 to Admty.)

M/V's. breaking W/T silence. Your 0355Z/31. Do not agree unless they have other very strong reasons.
(C.in C. A.W.I., 13120/1. to C. in C. China.)

ORION. Following is programme (to Mare Island, California.)
(C. in C. A.W.I., 13220/1, to N.S.H.Q.,Ottawa, etc.)

/Capture .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

Capture of German. Trawler.	Your 1451Z/30. Except for the statement that trawler was flying Portuguese flag this story is true. Canadian N.A., can inform Navy Dept., accordingly, but should add that it is important to keep this information Secret. (D.N.I., 1742B/1, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
FORT DE FRANCE. (French.)	San Juan arrival 31/7. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1837R/1 to Admty.)
Service Personnel.	1744B/16/7 not to N.S.H.Q. In view of your 1248B/26 stating wishes O.C.Canadian Govt., must be met, it is assumed following policy for service personnel in unescorted ships from Canada is still recognized. (1) Service personnel may be embarked up to 50 per cent of total life-saving capacity, that is when service personnel are embarked the total number of personnel on board including crew and all passengers will be only 50 per cent of life-saving capacity. (2) Numbers of respective services embarked is arranged by Canadian Movement Control without specific limitations. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1923Z/1 to Admty.)

Australia.

CAPITAINE ILLIOQUER.	Arrival 31/7. Depart. 31/7., for Noumeau, 5/8. (Newcastle N.S.W., T.H.I., 0001Z/1 to M. of W.T.)
EIDSVOLD.	Left Aden 10/7 for Rottnest Is., Lt. due 28/7. Has not arrived. (A.C.N.B., 0317Z/1 to Admty., etc.)
PERTH.	A.C.N.B. thank Their Lordships for signal 0231B/30. Matter of great satisfaction to R.A.N. that H.M.A. ships and Australian personnel have been closely co-operating with R.N. in common cause. (A.C.N.B. 1103Z/1 to Admty.)

/Shipping.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.41.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia. Contd.

Shipping.	A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B /1 to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B. See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.41. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

IDA KNUDSEN. (torpedoed 21/7.)
Your 1721B/29. (A) No. My 1750B/28 refers. (B) 8 times. (C) No escort detailed. Only two trawlers available at time were sent to NORVINN in the absence of any information of IDA KNUDSEN's whereabouts. Air search failed to locate latter. (D) CORINTHIAN reported boarding her on 17/7. She was then about 36 hours ahead of programme and was doing a ? wide zig-zag to adjust time of arrival at 15° W.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1154B/1, to Admty.)

O.G.69.
LAPLAND. (Sunk 28/7.)
WROTHAM (Sunk 27/7.)
C.A.F.O. 770/40. (1) British LAPLAND torpedoed 2130B/28 approx., 40° 30' N., 15° 00' W. Ship sank in 10 minutes and no likelihood of compromise of books. Entire crew saved. Information from Master.
(2) British WROTHAM torpedoed 0430B/27 approx., 43° 00' N., 17° 00' W. Ship sank in 15 minutes and no likelihood of compromise of books. Information from Master. Entire crew saved.
(3) Both ships O.G.69.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1304B/1.)

O.G.69.
SITOE BONDO
SHAHRISTAN
Unknown ship.
Further attack made on this convoy night of 29-30/7. SITOE BONDO, Dutch, 7050 tons, torpedoed at 0048/30 about 750 miles W. of Gibraltar, Master and 57 rescued by Spanish CAMPECHE. Master reported that SHAHRISTAN, British, 6935 tons, was torpedoed and on fire in vicinity at 2335/29 and that an unknown ship was torpedoed about 0130/30. (D.O.R. 1/8.)

SITOE BONDO. (Sunk 30/7.)
My 1655/31/7. Master amends longitude to read 023° 53' W.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1551/1.)

CANADIAN STAR.
Sailing independently, attacked at 0432/20/7, by S/M about 630 miles W. of Ushant, Arrived at Curacoa 30/7 with some damage but no casualties.
(D.S. 696.)

HOLMSIDE.
British, 3433 tons, reported to have been torpedoed on 19/7. 16 survivors have arrived Lisbon and 25 of crew are missing. Bound in ballast from Hull to Freetown, and had been in Convoy O.G.67. (D.S.697.) (D.O.R.2/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 1.8.1941. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0340. Catalina Flying Boat reports 3 U-Boats in position 71° - 27' N., 28° 20' E., at 0340/31, Course 130° 6 knots.
(D.D.I.C. 0218B/1 to C.S.1., Force A., TIGRIS: 0225B/1 to N.A. Moscow; 0241B/1 to B.N.S.O., Polyarno).

Following approx., positions of U-Boats have been obtained by D/F.

2022Z/31. (1) At 2022Z/31 46° 30' N., 5° 30' W., probably inward bound.

2111Z/31. (2) At 2111Z/31 46° 30' N., 48° N., 8° W - 9° W., probably homeward bound.

2122Z/31. (3) At 2122Z/31 47° N., 10° 30' W., probably on a N.W. or W. course.

2143Z/31. (4) At 2143Z/31 48° N., 8° W., probably homeward bound.
(D.D.I.C., 0327B/1 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, etc).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1431B/1).

1305. By A/C in 62° 13' N., 5° 33' E., on surface, escorted by vessel about 1500 tons. Appeared to be turning towards Rovde Fjord. (Pitreavie 1535/1).

Submarines Attacked.

By FLEUR DE LYS. C.A.F.O., 834/41 (a)FLEUR DE LYS (b) (1) 1215/25/7. (2) 1053/28/7, (3) 2025/28/7.
(c) (1) 041° N., 019° 57' W.
(2) 041° 04' N., 017° 00' W.
(3) 040° 36' N., 015° 18' W.
(d) 48.
(e) (1) Abandoned 1338.
(2) Abandoned 1120.
(3) Abandoned 2128.
(FLEUR DE LYS, 0930B/1).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

August commitments. As far as can be seen at present the commitments for cruisers and destroyers for the present month are as follows. Details. (A.C.N.S. H., 1129B/2).

Flag of V.A.H.F. The Flag of V.A. is to be transferred from PRINCE OF WALES to DUNLUCE CASTLE at 1200/3. (C. in C. H.F., 1612B/2).

Thames Estuary. War Channel. (D. of N., 2120b/2 to C. in C. Nore). See Operations Volume.

Co-operation with Russia.

Norwegian Coast R/C. X.1144. Naval R/C made this evening prevented from going further than 26° E., on account of weather. (Ad. Miles, Moscow, 2258/2 and 2321/2).

Movements.

ADVENTURE. Request information whether ADVENTURE has arrived at Archangel. (A.C.N.S. H., 1125B/2 to Naval Mission, Moscow.)

BERWICK. BERWICK is to sail from Rosyth at 0900B/3 for Scapa to arrive 2130B/3. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1201/2).

ESPERANCE BAY. WORCESTER. ESPERANCE BAY with WORCESTER as S.A. Escort are to sail from Rosyth at 2030/3 to Thames Gate for London, passing No. 22 Buoy 0015/4 where QUORN is to R/V as additional S.A. Escort. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1229/2).

A.F.D.IV A.M. 1928B/22. As the depth of water is never more than 40 fathoms and there is no swpt channel route it will be necessary to sweep ahead of the dock with L.L. sweepers. Five of these will be required for about five days, during which time the Plymouth and Falmouth Channels will be incompletely swept. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1310/2)..

SHROPSHIRE. Arrived Hvalfjord at 1630. (A.C.I.C., 1717/2).

HARRIER. Sailed HARRIER for Seydisfjord. E.T.A. 0100B /5. On arrival HARRIER will take over Senior Officer. (R.A.D., 2330/2).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.41.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Exercise LEAPFROG.

My 2003B/26. During the period of Exercise LEAPFROG, it will be much appreciated if:-
(a) Scapa Bay could be clear of ships other than those taking part in the assault.
(b) If arrangements could be made for the North part of the Flow to be reserved for the 10th and 11th of August.
(D.O.D.H. 1418B/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Operation E.F.V.2.

X.1146. Your 2342B/1. To Admiralty from Admiral Miles. Air R/C early this morning prevented by fog but will be carried out as soon as weather conditions permit. 5 destroyers, 6 escort vessels, 3 submarines and other small craft based on Varanger Fiord area. 12 submarines at Trondjheim. About 100 aircraft at Kirkenes and another 10 at both Tromso and Narvik. No information of shipping movements.
(Moscow 2321/2.)

British Air Activity.

U.K./ Iceland Air Service.

An air service is being instituted forthwith between U.K. and Iceland leaving Prestwick 1300 every Monday and Reykjavik 0900 every Wednesday, weather permitting.
(2) The Albatross normally employed on this service bears some similarity to Focke Wulf, from which it can be distinguished by its twin rudders, one at each extremity of tail plane.
(3) N.C.S.O's are requested to inform M/V's before sailing.
(C. in C. W.A. 0914B/2.)

Patrols.

Voe A and B discontinued owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0916/2.)
Following in operation:- VOE A, STAB, BERT, STAND.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1520/2.)

Patrol SKROO.

My 2308/1/8. Amendment. (C. in C. Rosyth 1045/2.) See Summaries Folder.

/Patrols.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.41.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

Patrols WALRUS, FOX SENTRY III TRAP LONGSTOP.

My 2330/11/6. Amend WALRUS to read FOX and add following particulars of Patrols SENTRY III, TRAP, LONGSTOP. (C. in C. Rosyth 1208/2.) See Summaries Folder.

1500-Ton M/V. sunk.

On 1/8 two A/C attacked a 1,500-ton ship and a 500-ton ship about 8 miles off Ostend and it was reported later that the larger vessel was on fire and sinking as a result of the attack. Night 1/2. All operations were cancelled owing to weather.
(H.Q.B.C. 1215/2.)

S.B. Restrictions.

Institute S.B.R., in Area 55 and in Area 54 East of 06° 30' W., from 2200/3 to 1200/5.
(H.Q.C.C. 1648/2.)

Operation E.F.V.2.

C.S. Ones. 2121/30/7. Request names of the Officers who led the Squadrons in these gallant attacks may be signalled as soon as possible.
(5th S.L. 2121B/2 to FURIOUS.)

Enemy Air Activity.

TRIDENT (British, 4317 Tons.) sunk.

TRIDENT joining F.S.57 bombed off 20 C Buoy. Crew abandoned ship and rescued. Ship sank 0140. Position 208° 20C 4 miles.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0206/2, 0252/2.)

JUTA. (British, 1559 Tons.) LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY (Bombed 1/8.)

JUTA and LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY leaving Sunderland to join F.S.57 bombed about 2330/1 in examination anchorage. Both returned to harbour under own steam. No casualties, but one U.X.B., in latter.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0310/2.)

Tyne. Anchorages. A/A Defence.

1. Enemy air attacks on shipping off Tyne Ports waiting to join East Coast Convoys have recently become increasingly popular and are generally delivered during or immediately after evening twilight. Since 29/4 the following attacks have been reported:-
(A) Off Tyne 8 attacks, 3 ships sunk, 5 damaged.
(B) Off Sunderland 2 attacks, 3 ships damaged.

/(C) Tees Bay..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Tyne Anchorages A/A Defence.

(C) Tees Bay 1 attack, 1 ship damaged.
Of the above 2 ships (ADAMS BECK 2816 tons and TRIDENT 4317 tons) have been sunk off Tyne since 29/7. 2. The only gun defence afforded to these ships is provided by MONAS ISLE whose H.A.armament consists of 1 12 pdr., 2 single-barrelled pom-poms and 1 4-barrelled 0.5 inch. Arrangements are in force between F.O.I.C.Tyne and 13 Group whereby Fighter Protection is provided to ships awaiting Convoy but this is often ineffective due to (A) Insufficient warning received prior to the attack. (B) Weather unsuitable for fighters to operate.
(C) Insufficient light for any except night fighters.
3. I am therefore strongly of opinion that the best defence against this form of attack is some form of well armed Flak ship and request that very early consideration may be given to the provision of one or more such vessels to reinforce MONAS ISLE in patrolling the Tyne anchorages. It appears probable from past experience that as soon as these attacks are made costly to the enemy they will be discontinued.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1249/2.)

Convoy E.C.54. KOOLGA (British 1110 Tons damaged.)

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy MIGHT. My position 52° 3' N., 1° 49' E.
(VERSATILE 1437/2.)
A/C bombing convoy. My position 52° N.,1°45'E.
(VORTIGERN 1509/2.)
12 bombs, no hits.
(VERSATILE 1530/2.)
A/C bombing Convoy. My position 52° 3' N., 1° 49' E. (VERSATILE 1537/2.)
Convoy still being bombed.
(VORTIGERN 1556/2.)
2 bombs no hits.
(VORTIGERN 1624/2.)
Enemy bombing Convoy in 52° 38' N., 2° 10' E.
(VERSATILE 2224/2.)
My 2224. Many bombs. No hits.
(VERSATILE 2302/2.)
Steamship KOOLGA E C 54 damaged near miss and making water near 54D buoy. Request tug. Trawler GREENFLY standing by.
(VORTIGERN 2320B/2.)

Convoy.

Help OCEAN in 53° 8' N., 1° 11' E.
(LIDDESDALE 2315/2.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2. 8. 41.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

M/S Trawlers for Portland. — Admiralty 2005/29 and F.O.i/c Greenock 1745/30. Sailed CERESIO and THOMAS ALTOFT. E.T.A. 2300/2. (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1635B/2 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

Thames Estuary sweep. — Propose further sweep of 34 QZF on 6/8. Request 2 of your Motor Minesweepers as before may be sailed to arrive at Queenborough a.m./5. (C. in C. Nore 2156B/2, to F.O.I.C. London.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. — At 1900/1, both battle cruisers and HIPPER cruiser in respective dry docks and all 3 docks dry. Further intelligence. (P.R.U. St. Eval 0001/2.)

North Norway. — Enemy Forces at Varanger Fiord, Trondheim, Kirkenes, Tromso, and Narvik. (Moscow 2321/2.) See Operations.

Technical.

Oiling at Sea. — Your 2314B/23. Trials by stirrup method satisfactorily carried out with oiler MONTENOL vicinity Ailsa Craig. Average rate of fuelling with three inch pipe 40 tons per hour. (VA.C.T.C. 1552B/2.)

Casualties & Defects.

EIARLETO. — Harwich August 2 departure Tug STALWART to assist Tanker EIARLETO. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0805/2.)

SOUTHSEA. (Mined 16/2.) — Request reply to my 1230/23, suggest Hughes Bolckow, Blyth, be instructed to salve engines and Hull. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1022/2.)

HARRIER. — S.A. Gear is incomplete and untested and cannot be used in its present condition. (VERNON M/S 1500/2 to C. in C. H.F.)

/CORMARSH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

CORMARSH ALRESFORD (Collision.)	S.S.CORMARSH arrived here damaged in collision with M/V ALRESFORD in F.S.55 near Sunk Buoy. ALRESFORD with large timber deck cargo reported to have become unmanageable. (N.C.S.O. Harwich 1644/2, F.O.I.C. Harwich 2216B/2.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Military Convoys.	Commitments for escort by cruisers and destroyers this month. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1129B/2 to C. in C.H.F., C. in C. W.A.)
F.S.Convoys.	Codes, 60 to 69. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1241/2) See Lion Copy.
O.N. and O.S.	Orders for Escort Groups. (C. in C. W.A., 2238B/2.) See Lion Copy.
W.S.10.	Sailed 2116/2/8. (D.S.T.O. Greenock, 2125/2.)
H.X.139.	Had originally 60 ships, but 5 put into Iceland and are following in a later convoy. Remaining 55 arrived safely under Commodore D.S.Robinson R.N.R., 14 Allied ships. 23 tankers. Other cargoes. (D.S. 697, 2/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LORINDA. Your 1955/1. Instruct LORINDA to pass through following positions on leaving Horta (a) 037° 30' N. 028° 30' W. (b) 033° 30' N. 023° 30' W. (c) 020° 00' N. 021° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0800/2 to WESTON, R.O. Horta, 0805B/2 to LORINDA.)

LOBSTINE. (French) Ref. My 1203/31 returned, arrived Oporto 29/7. (N.A. Lisbon, T.H.I. 1342/2 to Admty.)

VIMY. Following from VIMY "addressed F.O.C.N.A. repeated C. in C.S.A. propose continuing escort with COPINSAY full speed 12.5 knots until relieved, returning to Gibraltar after fuelling at Bathurst or Freetown T.O.O. 0720A/2". (VIDETTE, 1451B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1451B/2. Not approved. (F.O.C.N.A.1858B/2 to VIMY.)

BALTA. LORINDA. Admty. 2019B/1 and F.O.C.N.A. 2022B/1 delivered BALTA which sailed 0830 G.M.T. LORINDA sailed 0900. Unable to deliver 0800/2 from N.O.I.C. Gibraltar received after vessel sailed. (R.O. Horta, 1510/2 to Admty.)

OLYMPUS report. (1) Convoy route exists between Ischia and Cape Ferrato Sardinia. Escorted Convoy proceeding direct from 1 mile South of Ischia to Stromboli. Liner CONTI VERDE Class entered Naples 23. northbound to meet ship 1600 tons sunk in 40° 40' N. 09° 50' E. OLYMPUS bombed at periscope depth 5 miles West of Cavoli Island 29 by flying boat, about 70 containers cracked. (F.O.C.N.A. 1608B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

MANCHESTER. Reply to Admty 1943B/1 re period required for temporary repairs. (Cdr. Supt. Gibraltar 1632B/2) See Operations Volume.

French Ships. Arrival 1/8 3 French. COURDANNES, JEUNE DENISE, PRESIDENT DE LAVIT. (Bilbao, 1915/2 to D. of S.T.)

O.G.69, A/C attack. My 2040B/1. SHAF CROWN and PELAYO have arrived Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1942B/2 to Admty. C. in C.W.A.)

HIGHLANDER. E.T.A. 0700A/6. S. of A. 21 knots. (HIGHLANDER, 2212Z/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LORINDA. Your 1955/1. Instruct LORINDA to pass through following positions on leaving Horta (a) 037° 30' N. 028° 30' W. (b) 033° 30' N. 025° 30' W. (c) 020° 00' N. 021° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0800/2 to WESTON, R.O. Horta, 0805B/2 to LORINDA.)

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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

R.D.F. and Raiders. Admty. 1247B/6/7 suggested importance of being able to distinguish between one transmitter and another and so obtain more definite information regarding number of different enemy units operating. Of interest to know how many different ships' transmitters have been identified by R.F.P. in S. Atlantic this year on series B. and Norddeich frequencies and suggested that R.F.P. equipment would be of value at Freetown. (C. in C.S.A. 1135N/2 to Admty.)

NORDERNEY (German) From Ambassador's Important to F.O. 557, 31/7, there is possibility of NORDERNEY being permitted to sail. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1534Z/2, 1816Z/2 to Admty.)

Destroyers. In view of heavy U/B concentration in vicinity of Gibraltar, request you will sail three of your Destroyers as soon as practicable to join North Atlantic Command temporarily. F.O.C.N.A. pass to S.O. Force H. on arrival. (V.C.N.S. 1545B/2 to C. in C.S.A.) See 2159/2.

Japanese Ships. Probable movements of Japanese ships in these waters. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1647Z/2 to D.N.I.)

ANTONIO LIMONCELLI. (Italian) R.O. Maranham informs me ANTONIO LIMONCELLI has received orders to sail but that she is not provisioned for long voyage. (S.O.I Montevideo 1946Z/2 to R.A.S.A.D.) (C. in C.S.A., 2300N/2 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

WIPUNEN. Rio de Janeiro reports Finnish WIPUNEN is expected to sail for Montevideo about 4/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2142Z/2 to Admty.)

WIVERN, WILD SWAN, BOREAS. Admty 1545/2. WIVERN, WILD SWAN, BOREAS leave Freetown 0600/3, fuel Bathurst, thence to Gibraltar at best speed passing East of Canaries. (C. in C.S.A. 2159N/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

W.S.9 B. — Disposal instructions for vessels of W.S.9 B. (D. of S.T. 0341B/2.)

Enemy Units. — P.C. and S. of enemy (one destroyer 3 M.B's) are 39.14 N., 10.02 E., 010, 050. 9. (A/C duty B. 0925/2 to Med. via Malta.)

Operation "Style". — Force X. arrived safely. (V.A. Malta, 1010B/2 to Admty. etc.)

Benghazi bombed. — Night 31/7 - 1/8. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour, bombs fell on Petrol Depot, coal store etc., causing explosions and one fire and on or near Seaplane Base at Cathedral Mole. 1 Wellington missing. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1032/2.)

Alexandria Raid. — Air raid on Alexandria 2100 to 2230/1 9 planes, 5 mines in harbour, 5 on shore, remainder believed well outside reef. No military damage, or casualties. (R.A. Alexandria, 1145C/2 to Admty.)

U/B rammed by HERMIONE. — HERMIONE reports ramming U-boat in 036° 21' N. 012° 40' E. early this morning, verified by dockyard removing parts of submarine from lower stern. Damage to HERMIONE slight and she is seaworthy. (V.A. Malta, 1335B/2 to S.O. Force H.)

Malta Air Report. — X.1135. I.10 2/8. C.S.R. Malta to 0600 hours 2/8. No night activity.

M/V's attacked Lampedusa. — P.M.1/8 Blenheims attacked shipping Lampedusa. 2 M.V's 3000 tons hit by 4 bombs. Debris thrown high. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1600/2.)

Operation "Style". — "Style" para. 17, position Z at 0600B, D.5, 24 knots. V.A. Malta pass to S.O.Force H. (S.O. Force X. 1620B/2 to S.O. Force H. amended 1801B/2.)
Force X. and FARNDALE sailed 1650. Expected to make good 24 knots via Tunisian route. (V.A. Malta 1706B/2 to S.O. Force H.)
My 1706/2 not to Admiralty. FARNDALE has returned to Malta with defects. (V.A. Malta, 1851B/2 to S.O. Force H.)

/Air .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air Strength.	Appreciation, in reply to Chiefs of Staff 147. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1732/2) See Lion Copy.
Turkey.	Re proposed staff talks. (C. in C.M.E. 1746/2 to W.O.)
Enemy Tanker.	Cancel S.O.(S) Malta 2050B/1. (N.T. in W.D.) Tanker is primary target. (C. in C. Med. 1908C/2 to UNIQUE.)
ROMA, AUGUSTUS, VIRGILIO.	At Genoa 25/7. (D.S. 697).
OCEANIA.	Believed to be at Genoa 25/7 repairing bomb damage. (D.S. 697.)
Alexandria.	Minesweeping Summary for 3 months ending 31/7. (R.A. Alexandria, 2040C/2 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
Situation Report 105.	Western Desert. Supply by destroyers, A lighter and store ship to Tobruk continuing. Tobruk reopened after mining. No enemy encountered (corrupt group) sweeps. Slight bombing. S/M's. My 2151/29. UPHOLDER also sank 6000 ton laden merchant ship eastbound on 24/7. Malta. 5 aircraft of 830 Squadron attacked southbound convoy on 31/7. 2 torpedoes dropped, one possible hit on 5000 ton M/V causing explosion and short fire. (C. in C. Med. 2330C/2 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Iran. Re German inspired rebellion. (30 M.M., Moscow, 0116/2 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.
Request Commander Currey be sent to Colombo by air urgently to report to me (? on) developments in (? Iran). He should meet S.N.O. P.G., (? on the way) to (? receive) latest information.
(C. in C. E.I. 0406Z/2 to Adty.)

B.P.11. Departure KANIMBLA escorting B.P.11.
(S.O.I., Bombay 0757Z/2 to Admty etc.)

Minewatching. Admty. Letter M/M/30222/41 of 16/4. Steps are being taken to establish minewatching organisation at following ports on E.I. Station:
Port Sudan, Massawa, Assab, Aden, Mombasa, Zanzibar, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanga, Mauritius, Colombo, Trincomalee, Basra and Bahrein.
2. Request Air Ministry may be approached, regarding prospect of providing RD/F sets.
3. Local Government authorities concerned are being informed that I consider minewatching organisations should be under naval control.
(C. in C.E.I., 1246Z/2 to Admty.)

SPRINGTIDE. Reference A.L.M. 06908/41 dated 10/5/41 and A.M. 1245B/27/6/41. Request you will arrange for SPRINGTIDE to be used for deperming naval vessels at ports in India and Ceylon and Burma before proceeding to China Station. Owing to lack of L.L. Vessels at Singapore she may be required to sail for that port at short notice if the situation so demands.
(D.M.S. 1752/2 to C. in C. E.I.)

Raiders, Crozet Island. From interrogation of Prisoners of War who recently have been on board Raider 16 it is believed that a base has been established at Crozet Island. In view of recent D.F. bearings, search suggested in vicinity of Crozet Island as soon as possible.
(V.C.N.S. 1851B/2, to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DUPLEIX. French. — Believe is proceeding to (? France). Left Saigon 27/7 for Haiphong. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0503Z/2, to Admty.)

Sarawak. — C. in C. China, 0537Z/2, to Admty. See Operations Volume.

Japan. — Proposed economic action as deterrent against intimidation of Thailand. (C. in C. Far East, 1857/2, to W.O. etc.) See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

American Submarines. — F.O.S. 1937B/19/7. Menzies report as follows. S. Class other than Government or Bureau design satisfactory for (A) and (B). R. Class satisfactory for (A) only.
2. Subject to Navy Dept., concurrence, Propose to send spare crew now in FORTH to New London for training and to take over one S. Class when available. Propose also that others be taken over in groups as crews become available.
3. Navy Dept., have not yet decided how many of each Class will be included in the 18 they offer transfer. It would however help them if I could give some indication of dates on which crews could be available.
(Washington, 0120/2, to Admty.)

Spanish Ship given secret route. — Spanish S.S. MARQUES DE COMILLAS which arrived Bermuda 28/7 had received route from C.S.A., New York, which included Swept Channel into Bermuda marked Secret not to be allowed to fall into hands of enemy.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 0924Q/2, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

— Military Convoy Commodores. — When Military Convoys are sailed it is requested the particulars of Commodore and his Staff may be communicated as in the case of Mercantile Convoys. (D.T.D. 1025B/2 to R.A.S.)

/U.S. Liaison..

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

U.S. Liaison. Your 1642B/18 and my 1213R/28. Reply Re Appointment of Cdr. Parry. (N.A. Washington, 1250R/2, to Admty.)

R.C.N. and Convoys. In view of Press report that agreement has been reached whereby Canadian Navy will play more effective part in Atlantic Convoys, request information. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1314Q/2, to Admty.) Reply: 1051/4.

Sealing W/T. My 1821Z/31. In absence of further analysis, practice of sealing ships W/T receivers and limitation of private W/T receivers seems amply proved by only three attacks on thirty-eight eastbound convoys. It is also observed that at Halifax N.C.S.O. personally holds conference with W/T operators. (C.O.A.C., Halifax, 1351Z/2, to Admty.)

FORT DE FRANCE (French) U.S. Navy Dept., reports left Martinique evening of 29/7 for San Juan, Puerto Rico. Reported she is to take on a cargo of fertilizer for Guadeloupe. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1429Z/2, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Belle Isle Patrol. My 1207Z/28. Intend to re-establish Belle Isle Strait Patrol with BUCTOUCHE arriving on patrol a.m./7. (C.C.N.F., 1927Z/2, to Admty., etc.)

Australia & New Zealand.

WARSPITE. Arrived Honolulu 1830Z/2. (WARSPITE, 1835Z/2, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

2.8.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

NORITA. C.A.F.O 770/40. (1) Swedish NORITA torpedoed 2140B/28 (?2140B/26) approx., 40° 10' N., 15° 30'W. Master's books went down with ship in locked safe. Ship sank in 5 minutes, no likelihood of compromise. Information from Master. 2 missing believed killed, remainder of crew safe.

KELLWYN. (2) British KELLWYN torpedoed 0037B/27 approx., 43° 00' N., 17° 00' W. Master's books in weighted eyeletted canvas bag on bridge went down with ship. Wireless office books in wireless office under lock and key went down with ship. Ship sank in less than one minute and no likelihood of compromise. Information from Chief Officer. A. McLeag, Master, died of injuries and buried at sea. 13 Missing believed killed. Remainder of crew safe.
3. Both ships O.O.69.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302B/2 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1417B/2.)

2024Z/1. Suggest D/F bearings at 2024Z/1, German message beginning E barred 980 indicates U-boat shadowing S.L.82. Reliability 80%.
(C. in C. S.A., 1149N/2, to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

1832Z. At 1832Z German S/M made first sighting report bearing 315/3 from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1959B/2, to SOUTHERN GEM.)

2120. By D/F at 2120/2 German U-Boat was bearing 305/2 from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2149B/2, to N.A., Stn., W.P.trawlers.)

Submarines Attacked.

By HERMIONE V.A. Malta 1335B/2. See Mediterranean.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Trawler "X" — My 1951B/26th July. Para 5 MARIA.
(Head of M., 0002B/3 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

GARLAND. — I shall be grateful if you can inform me when you expect to release GARLAND.
(C. in C. W.A., 1609B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Thames Estuary. War Channel. — Your 2120B/2. Concur. (C. in C. Nore, 1714B/3 to Admty).

ARGUS. — ARGUS is to cease training duties forthwith and disembark training aircraft in preparation for a ferrying trip. Up to 24 unerected R.A.F. Hurricanes and 6 naval Fighters will be embarked by lighter from Abbotsinch. Loading will start on 8/8 and ARGUS is to be ready to sail (Date).
(A.C.N.S. H., 1715B/3).
My 1715B/3. Code name STRENGTH.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1717B/3).

Co-operation with Russia.

Wishes of Russian C. in C. — (S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3).
See Operations Volume.

Movements.

ESPERANCE BAY. — My 1229/2. E.T.A. Flamborough 1400/4, Sheringham Buoy 2100/4. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1432/3).
Departure ESPERANCE BAY and WORCESTER.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2055/3).

MINERVE. — R/V with PRESTON NORTH END in position 45° Fuglo Island 4 miles at 2300/4 and take her under your orders for escort to Dundee. E.T.A. 1700/6. Route. Do not pass longitude 003° 18' W., before 2330/5.
(A.C.O.S., 1832B/2 to MINERVE).

ADVENTURE. — Request reply to my 1125B/2.
(A.C.N.S. H., 2359B/3 to Naval Mission, Moscow).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation E.F.V.2.

Force Q sighted in 071° 50' N., 001° 40' E. at 0400B/2. Took no oil from BLACK RANGER. Did not exchange escort. 2. (?) Hurricanes shot down shadowing Dornier at 1317B/31 whilst still in company with R.A.1 C.S.
(FURIOUS, 0831B/3 to A.C.C.S.)
Arrived Seidis Fiord 0530Z/3 FURIOUS, SUFFOLK, INTREPID, ECHO, ECLIPSE. (A.C.I.C., 1016/3).

Exercise LEAPFROG.

Your 1418B/2. Arrangements will be made. (A.C.C.S., 1246B/3 to Admty).

Operation.

Three M.T.B.'s and one M.G.B. leave Dover at 2300 to operate between Berck-sur-mer and Fecamp returning to Dover at about 0700. Route via "D" buoy each way. (V.A. Dover, 1540B/3-).

KARL GARLSTER. (Destroyer) One Minesweeper, One 4,000 ton Transport. sunk by Russians.

Soviet Union claim:-
German Destroyer KARL GARLSTER sunk by A/C at Kirkenes 25/7.
One Minesweeper sunk by S/M off Varda in 70° 23' N. 31° 10' E.
One 4,000 ton Transport sunk at Hornigsvig by S/M on 15/7. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3)
See Operations Volume.

British Air Activity.

A/S Patrols.

18 Group 1520/2. While these Air Patrols have been in force, other evidence shows that very few U-boats have made the passage between Norway and the Atlantic. As our object is still to locate the route used and although no Submarine will be actually on Patrol in a suitable intercepting position, I suggest that we continue to search this Area bearing in mind that even Negative inforamtion will prove of great value provided the patrols can be continued long enough to enable us to form definite conclusions. (F.O.S., 1006B/3 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols.

TROST, STAB, and BERT are being flown to reach Norwegian coast about noon.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1106/3).

/Noe A.....

MOST SECRET.

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols Contd.

Voe A will in future be flown whenever weather permits, instead of Voe's A and B alternatively as heretofore.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1744/3).
STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2250/3.)

Enemy Air Activity.

KOOLGA (Bombed 2/8).

Departure Tug DIVERSION to assist KOOLGA near 54 D Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0050B/3).

Trawler attacked on 2/8.

Aberdeen trawler reports unsuccessful bombing attack at 1530B/2. 12 miles E.N.E. from Fugloy. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C., Faeroes, 0112B/3).

F.N.1.

GARTH's 1312. 4 bombs no hits. Dornier chased away to South East by fighters. (LEEDS, 1335/3).

S.L.81.

F.W.destroyed by Hurricane. Pilot safe. (MAPLIN, 1550B/3).

Convoy O.G.70

It is probable O.G.70 has been reported by enemy aircraft. (D.D.I.C., 1709B/3).

LEO. SCHIEHALLION STAR O'LEARNEY attacked.

Grimsby trawler LEO and Aberdeen trawler SCHIEHALLION attacked by aircraft about four miles East of Sando at 1230/3. Four bombs dropped and machine gunned, LEO, one slight casualty., SCHIEHALLION three slight casualties. Aberdeen trawler STAR O'LEARNEY bombed and machine gunned by aircraft nine miles N.E. from Fugloy. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1945B/3).

Mining.

Tyne.

Detonated one red ground magnetic mine 0703 in position 029° Roker Pier Light 3 point 3 miles.
(P.M.S.O. North Shields 0950/3).

M.M.s 16 and 17.

Your 2156B/2. M.M.s 16 and 17 E.T.A. Queenborough 0930/5. (F.O.I.C. London, 1155B/3 to C. in C. Nore).

Harwich Area.

A/P vessel reports 2 heavy explosions near B8 at 2320/2. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1229B/3).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats. Suspected E-Boat activity. (N.O.I.C. Harwich 0001B/3). E-boats off position N., are moving in general direction North. (Harwich 0018B/3 to Yarmouth).

Baltic and Dutch Shipping. Details from 22/7 to about 24/7. (N.A. Stockholm 1042/3).

Casualties and Defects.

MARITIMA (British 5804 tons). My 0550B/3. Alongside her now and placing portable pump on board. (ZWARTE ZEE, 0945B/3). Situation in hand. Expecting to finish 2200B/3rd. (ZWARTE ZEE 2015B/3 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

NUBIA. (Grimsby F. Trawler). Arrived 0910/3, reports having been in collision with an escort vessel at 0230/3/8 in position 20 miles S.W.x.W. Girdleness. Stem twisted and leaking. Name of escort vessel unknown. No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1230/3).

MINERVE. My 1832/2 and my 1837/2. MINERVE left patrol at 0945 today unescorted for Pentland Firth at slow speed with defects. E.T.A. 0400/5. (A.C.O.S., 1309B/3).

CAPE MARIATO. (A/S Trawler). At 0230 was in collision with unknown Southbound fishing trawler in 056° 46' 30" N.,002° 01' 12" W. Damage apparently only above water. (CAPE MARIATO, 1350B/3).

VERVAIN. (Corvette.) Steaming on one boiler only - other boiler developed defects which cannot be made good at sea. (CLOVER, 2050Z/3).

Shipping and Convoys.

STRATHNAVER W.S.10 X. My 0321/30/7. STRATHNAVER will not now be included in W.S.11. A. She will instead be used for W.S.10 X. (dates). (D.S.T., 0250B/3 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool)

H.X.139. Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. your convoy H.X.139. The 5 ships which lost touch in fog arrived safely in Iceland. (C. in C. W.A., 1115B/3 to Cmdre. D.S. Robinson R.N.R.)

/H.G.68.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

HG.68 — Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your convoy H.G.68. (C. in C. W.A., 1130B/3 to Adm, A.J. Davies.) 12 British, 1 Greek, 2 Swedish ships. Cargoes. (D.S., 698, 3/8).

S.L.81. — Report your P.C. and S. of A of convoy forthwith. (D.T.D., 1223B/3 to Escorts of S.L. 81)

W.S.10. — Amending Admty. 1952B/29. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1308B/3 to C. in C. W.A., LONDON, WORCESTERSHIRE, JUPITER) See Lion Copy.

O.S. Convoys. — Intend making sailing telegram of O.S. Convoy in following form commencing with O.S.2. Name of convoy (a) Time and position of last known fix or where not available estimated 2000 position on day of making signals (b) U.K. escort proceeding to Bathurst (c) Cdre., Vice Cdre. and their ships (d) Name and destination of ships which are to be met by Freetown escort. (C. in C. W.A., 1604B/3 to Admty C. in C. S.A.)

W.N. Convoys. — Amend my 1758B/30 as follows:- Zero Bloody Bay
W.N. 63 (Medium) 0615/7
W.N. 65 (Fast). Sail Oban 0500/10. 0845/10.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1732B/3 to Admty etc).

American Tankers. — Shuttle service to Iceland. Arrangements. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1743B/3 to C. in C. W.A.) See Lion Copy.

N.Atlantic. Convoys. — In view of urgent necessity for a quick turn round of shipping the number of ships included in North Atlantic convoys need no longer be limited to 40. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1917B/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C W.A.)

Balloons. — To be provided for certain ships from 6/8. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2209B/3 to A.I.G., 26) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LORINDA. — R.O. Horta's 1510/2. Request you will take necessary action. (D.C. 0159B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CAUDEBEC French. — Left Setubal in ballast for Lisbon. (N.A. Lisbon, 1028/3 to Admty).

BALTA, LORINDA. — Horta departure 2nd, BALTA, LORINDA routed in accordance with my 2019B/1 and 0805B/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 1120B/3 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 2019B/1 to BALTA and my 0805B/2 to LORINDA. (Route) Keep a good look out for life boat. (F.O.C.N.A., 1625B/3 to BALTA, LORINDA).

W.S.10. — If A/S Escort from W.S. 10 fuel at Azores, AMERIKA and LEINSTER can be sailed to meet them with escort from 8th D.F. In addition, THERMOPYLAE and TALABOT could be sailed in company with ARETHUSA and MANXMAN as escorts. (F.O.C.N.A., 1310B/3 to Admty). Reply, 0036/4.

French Convoys. — Passing Gibraltar. 1/8. (D.O.R., 3/8).

KOS IX — Route. on leaving Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A., 1344B/3 to N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada.)
My 1344B/3. Amend route for KOS IX as follows. Pass through position 034° 30' N., 026° 20' W., 032° 50', 026° 12', 020° 00', 021° 00'. Keep good look out for life boats of MACON torpedoed in 032° 48' N., 026° 12' W. (F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, 2320B/3 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

Force H., Force X, HERMIONE, RENOWN. — My P.C. & S. at 2000/3, 037° 48' N., 003° 47' E., course 260° 17 knots. Force X in company. HERMIONE missed by one torpedo aircraft 2200/2. RENOWN's bulge torn away and folded back. E.T.A late p.m./4. No attack today 3rd. (S.O. Force H., 2025/3 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

DRESDEN. Have you any information concerning German M.V. DRESDEN? Unconfirmed report that ship reached St. Jan de Luz some time ago but we cannot trace any report that ship had loaded cargo at Santos or elsewhere. (M.E.W., 0330/3 to Rio de Janeiro).

W.S.9 B. Durban departures GALATEA escorting convoy W.S. 9 B. E.T.A., Aden 1200Z/14. (N.L.O. Durban, 0700Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Aden etc). Sailing telegram. (N.C.S.O., Durban, 0830Z/3).

Escort Group System. Suggested adoption in dealing with U/B attack on convoys. (D.A/S.W., 1243B/3 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.

Intercepted French Ships. Re policy. (C. in C. S.A., 1301N/3 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

CILICIA. Leave patrol and return to Freetown to arrive a.m./9. (C. in C. S.A., 1411N/3 to CILICIA.)

LANDGUARD. Your 0928/3rd. (N.T. in W.R.) You will be required to sail from Bathurst with CULVER and WELLINGTON p.m./7. Gambia Marine may be able assist with labour for boiler cleaning if necessary. Your (IV) are these passengers crew or survivors? (C. in C. S.A., 1835N/3 to LANDGUARD).

ORION. Departed Simonstown and arrived D.G. range Capetown 3/8 and sailed 1555/3 for St. Helena. S. of A. 19 knots. E.T.A. 0830/7. General St. Helena informed. Times are G.M.T. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1957Z/3 to Admty etc).

French Ships. Following Vichy ships southbound expected to be latitude of Freetown about date shown. ERIDAN 10/8, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR 11/8. (C. in C. S.A., 2107N/3 to S.A. Stn).

CARNARVON CASTLE, ERLANGEN prisoners. Your 0123/2. In view of Admty 1654/31/7 I should prefer to keep CARNARVON CASTLE as long as possible. Unless you have any special job for her from Cape Agulhas, propose therefore to transfer ERLANGEN prisoners back to NEWCASTLE when latter passes Rio de Janeiro area about 15/8 after transfer of flag. They would be landed Trinidad or Freetown vide my 1737/19/7 (to C. in C. S.A. only). CARNARVON CASTLE then to fuel at Montevideo about 19/8 and leave patrol to arrive at Capetown 10/9 to exchange ammunition. (R.A.S.A.D., 2149Z/3 to C. in C. S.A.). Approved(C. in C. S.A.1654N/6).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TIRPITZ. Unconfirmed report that a German ship sunk by mines off San Remo. A previous report had been received that German TIRPITZ, 7970 tons, which left Marseilles about 21/7 for Genoa, was mined off San Remo. (D.S.698.)

Force X. Your 1701/2, Force X, consider not sighted. (V.A. Malta, 0035B/3, to S.O. Force H.) See also North Atlantic.

Alexandria Tobruk M/S. Mine Sweeping summary week ending 2/8. August. (A) Alexandria 1 raid p.m./1. 1 Parachute and possibly 2 type C fell in harbour. 1 mine probably type C exploded ashore on landing. None swept. (B) Tobruk one mine swept by single L p.m./31. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1115C/3, to Admty.)

CLAUDIO TIBERIO (Cruiser.) Report of commissioning. Re Italian S/M's building. (S.O.(I) Med. 1215C/3.) See Lion Copy.

M.T.B's. Your 1901C/1. Shipment of M.T.B.s from America should commence very shortly. Reply to last para. of Adty., 1639B/17 is requested in order that necessary equipment may be despatched. (Vice Controller 1517B/3 to C. in C. Med.)

Malta Raid. Night 2 - 3/8. 5 aircraft over. 1 stick on land. No damage or casualties. (H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 1700/3.)

UTMOST report. UTMOST reported at 2323/20 in 038° 26' 012° 48' fired two torpedoes on westbound escorted 6,000 ton M/V torpedoes missed. From 22nd until 2100/26 during operation "SUBSTANCE", nothing noteworthy sighted in northern approach to Messina. At 0100/28, on southern shore of Gulf Euphemia in 016° 06', a train was blown up on an embankment.

M/V sunk.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

3.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

M/V sunk. At 2001/28 in 039° 31' 015° 50' fired two torpedoes at 4000 ton southbound laden M/V escorted by A.M.C. one hit, ship observed to sink. Owing to orders to cover exit of Palermo during passage of HERMIONE, no further rail sabotage possible.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1904B/3, to Capt. S.1.)

Turkey. Re staff talks. (C. in C. M.E. 2035/3 to M.A. Ankara.) See Lion Copy.

Situation Report 106. Western Desert. VENDETTA and HAVOCK attacked by 20 to 30 J.U.87 and M.E.109 at 2000/2, while running supplies to Mersa Tobruk. 12 Hurricanes on patrol intercepted and shot down three J.U.87, one M.E.109, and possibly two more M.E.109. Three Hurricanes missing. No damage to ships.
(C. in C. Med., 22310/3, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Persian Gulf. Reply to Admty. 2359/1. Operation "Countenance". (C. in C.E.I. 0658Z/3 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

Hospital Ship Markings. Your 1254/26. R/C of hospital ships TALAMBA, KARAPARA by day indicates that present enlarged deck markings are clearly visible at 10,000 feet and side markings recognisable at 10 miles by night, illuminated deck markings distinguishable at 5000 feet, side markings recognisable at three miles. All markings have been increased to maximum size in these two ships. (S.S.T.O. India, 0659Z/5 to D. of S.T.)

KIONGA. (German) Following from N.O.I.C. Kilindini (begins). S.T.O. Mogadishu reports that German Tug KIONGA scuttled there could be salved. Apparently only damage Sea Cocks broken off. If services of Diver and Diving Gear could be obtained estimated she could be salved in about six weeks. (Ends.) (C. in C.E.I. 0756Z/3 to Admty.)

FOREST. Your 1717/1. FOREST did not call at Aden; E.T.A. Calcutta 11/8. (N.C.S.O. Aden 1505Z/3 to Admty.)

Force T. Seychelles departure 1100Z/3/8 HERMES, ENTERPRISE. (S.O.I. Colombo, 2050Z/3 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

Japanese Shipping. Your 0025/1. Instructions have been sent to all Missions abroad that all applications by Japanese ships are to be referred to Ministry of War Transport. (Hd. of M., 0013B/3 to S.O.I Jamaica).

ROZENBURG. MURENA returned H.X.142 with full crew of ROZENBURG There were no casualties. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1523Z/3 to Admty.)

/NYHOLM .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

NYHOLM.	Norwegian NYHOLM due Trinidad 27/7 from St. Helena not yet arrived. (S.O.I Jamaica, 1637R/3 to Admty. etc.) See S.O.I. Freetown 1150/4.)
KURIOSO MARU and raider.	Colon reports information from U.S. Authorities KURIOSO MARU recently at San Francisco possibly refuelling Pacific Raider. Further details awaited safe hand. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1756R/3 to Admty. etc.) See also 1621/6.

Australia.

CAPETOWN CASTLE.	Your 0907/19. No objection to Service Personnel from Australia and New Zealand being embarked subject to limitations laid down in Admty. 1744/16/7. (D.S.T. 0206B/3 to A.C.N.B.)
CAP TARIFA. (French)	Arrived. (Port Kembla, 2355Z/3 to D. of S.T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.8.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

MACON.
(torpedoed 24/7.)

LONDONDERRY picked up a.m./3 Master and 18 men from British MACON, 5135 tons, torpedoed and sunk on 24/7 about 455 miles W.of Madeira. MACON left Liverpool on 28/1 and had been at Sao Miguel, Azores, for boiler repairs until 22/7, when she sailed for Freetown. (D.S.699, 4/8.) W.D. Note:- No signal received in W.D., but see F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 2320B/3 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, under North Atlantic.

WELLWYN.
(torpedoed 27/7.)

British, 1459 tons, in O.G.69, reported torpedoed and sunk on 27/7 in the attack on that convoy. Bound from Tyne to Lisbon with coke, and was attacked about 400 miles W.N.W. of Cape Finisterre. This is the 9th ship known to have been torpedoed in this convoy. (D.S. 698, 3/8, 699, 4/8.)

Submarines Reported.

2355/2.

At 2355/2 G.M.T. an enemy U-boat within 25 miles of 55° 45' N. 15° 26' W. (D.D.I.C. 0302B/3 to S. and A.W.A. H.Q.C.C. Deptford.)

0527 G.M.T.

German Submarine bearing 295/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 0651B/3 to N.A. Stn.)

0443 G.M.T.

At 0443/3 G.M.T. an enemy U-boat was in 51° to 52° N. 19° to 20° W. and has probably reported MORETON BAY. (D.D.I.C. 0753B/3 to MORETON BAY, DEPTFORD, etc.)

S.L.81.

Convoy S.L. 81 was shadowed throughout the night. U-boats were still in contact at 0912B/3. (D.D.I.C.1030B/3 to HELIOTROPE, WALLFLOWER etc.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. Considerable movement seems to be taking place and estimates are unreliable. (D.D.I.C. 1407B/3.)

1809 G.M.T.

By D/F at 1809/3 G.M.T. position of Italian U-boat estimated within 60 miles of 40° 30' N. 19° 30' W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 2113B/3 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A., BIDEFORD.) (F.O.C.N.A. 2159/3 to N.A. Stn.)

/1858Z .....

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1858Z. 1858Z. Italian U-boat 260/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 2121B/3 to N.A. Stn.)

1825 G.M.T. D/F at 1825 G.M.T. indicates that Convoy O.G.70 has been sighted by U-boat. (D.D.I.C. 2157B/3 to DEPTFORD, MARIGOLD, CONVOLVULUS etc.)

1054 G.M.T. Report from Blenheims en route from U.K. 3/8. Observed at 1054 G.M.T. two submarines large ocean going type steering 300° speed 8 knots 047° 16' N. 008° 00' W. at 1054 one observed course 000° position 042° 40' 009° 30', approx. 1245 submarine took avoiding action firing three flares aircraft gave letters of day. (F.O.C.N.A.2301B/3 to Admty.)

Submarines Attacked.

South Atlantic. Suggesting adoption of Escort Group System. (D. A/S W. 1243B/3) See South Atlantic.

Russia. Soviet claim following among local successes. U-boat sunk by destroyer 68.30 N., 39.40 E. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3 to Admty.) W.D. Note:- No time or date given.

By A/C. Ref. LEU/02/3/8. Navigator states that S/M was on surface: no crew visible on deck: state of C/T not observed. Up to time of release of bombs S/M made no apparent attempt to submerge. The impact of bombs on surface recorded by photograph was not observed by any of A/C crew. Airgunner reports that he observed violent convulsion of water enveloping S/M. A/C crew state that at a distance of approx. 300 yds. from target position, as they turned ahead of convoy out to sea, a large patch of white foam indicated position of S/M, but that no trace of vessel could be detected. Evasive action on part of A/C prevented further observation. (Pitreavie 1000/3 to Admty.)

/By .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked - Contd.

By CAPE PORTLAND. 1 S/M submerged my position 61.02 N., 12.30 W. (DELIUS 1230/3 to Scapa W/T.)
Proceed to 061° 02' N. 012° 30' W. and assist CAPE PORTLAND in hunting S/M. (S.O.N.T. 1326B/3 to NORTHERN SUN.)
One submerged S/M 061° 02' 012° 30' attacking no change. (CAPE PORTLAND 1350B/3 to S.O.N.T.)
Contact lost. Attack of one full pattern and 2 separate charges. Carrying out search (corrupt group) position 061° 06' 012° 15'. (CAPE PORTLAND 1455B/3 to S.O.N.P.T.)

By WANDERER and ST.ALBANS. One F.W. A/C shot down by Hurricane. S/M sighted on surface 3 miles. Am attacking. "Child" ordered to alter course to starboard. My position is 50° 33' N. 19° 40' W. (WANDERER, 1517B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
6 attacks delivered by WANDERER and ST. ALBANS. Contact faded after last attack and bubbles seen. Consider S/M sunk. HYDRANGEA and CAMPANULA searching for 2 hours in vicinity. Second and possibility of third S/M shadowing convoy 10 to 20 miles ahead, also second A/C. Intend sweeping ahead with destroyers after disposing of corvettes. Hurricane pilot safe in WANDERER 50° 33' 19° 34' (Weather) (WANDERER, 1849B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)

By HYDRANGEA, CAMPANULA. C. in C.W.A. 1646/19/6. While carrying out hunt with CAMPANULA as ordered by WANDERER in 050° 18' N. 020° 10' W. at 2004 observed S/M surfacing. Fired 2 rounds of ammunition, submarine then dived, obtained firm contact firing 2 patterns. Have evidence S/M was sunk, as follows:- 2 sheepskin coats, 1 German seaman's collar, leather coat marked Schmidt, 2 cushions and 3 pieces of human flesh. Considerable oil patches observed on surface. Am remaining in vicinity with CAMPANULA until dark and then rejoining S.L. 181. (HYDRANGEA 2219B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
HYDRANGEA and CAMPANULA have re-sunk my submarine or more probably second one seen originally in vicinity. Wreckage including human entrails obtained. Am now searching for another S/M sighted by HELIOTROPE 7 miles to south of convoy. Convoy happily enveloped in fog. My 1849B/3 not to Admiralty. (WANDERER, 2345B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

GARLAND. — I hope to be able to release GARLAND on about 9/8. (C. in C.H.F.0947B/4 to C. in C.W.A.)

Swedish M/V's. — My 1116/2. Positions of Westbound ships at 0001/4 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1101/4.)
Sighted large tanker Westabout off Myggenaes. Too far off to intercept. Visibility bad. (STOKE CITY 1135/4.)
Your 1135. Expect three more Swedish ships westbound sailed independently at intervals of about 4 hours. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1213B/4 to STOKE CITY.)

Loch Fyne. WOOLSTON. — Special A/A and A/S protection of Loch Fyne is no longer necessary. Suggest WOOLSTON be withdrawn. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1838B/4.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Archangel. — Your 1940B/30/7 and M.E.W. Telegram No.243 of 2/8 and probability that Archangel will become increasingly important as a supply base, is it intended to institute a naval control service or similar organisation there? If so are any previous arrangements required here.
(Admiral Miles, 1639C/4 to Adty.)

Movements.

PRINCE CHARLES. — Sailed PRINCE CHARLES to Greenock for Clyde to embark R. Boat Flotilla and personnel from PRINCE LEOPOLD and return to Tail of Bank.
E.T.A. Tail of Bank 0700/4. (V.A.C.T.C.0301B/4.

MINERVE. — Proceed position 045° Sule Skerry 2 miles where Trawlers CELIA and HAMLET will meet you at about 2000/4 for onward escort to Scapa. Do not approach Orkneys until you have met escort.
(A.C.O.S. 1317B/4 to MINERVE.)
My 1317/4. Remain near Sule Skerry with your escort until about 0100/5 and then return to Scapa so as to arrive at Switha Gate at about 0600/5. (A.C.O.S. 1901B/4 and 2123B/4 to MINERVE.)

/A.F.D.IV .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

A.F.D.IV. — A.M.1928B/22 and My 1310/2. As the chance of encountering Magnetic Mines on passage is considered small propose to sweep with L.L. Trawlers in and out of Ports only. As the danger from T.Type Mine is greater propose to sweep ahead with Oropesa Trawlers. (C. in C. Plymouth 1320/4.)

TIGRIS. — Arrival TIGRIS. Please inform Admiral, Submarines, S.O. Force A. (S.N.O. Murmansk 1543C/4.)

MAID HONOR. — My 1533B/31. Expected date of sailing 8/8. Amend mean course 250° to read mean course 270°. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1653B/4.)

HARRIER. — Arrived Seidis Fjord Iceland and taken over duty S.N.O. (HARRIER 2355B/4.)

Operations.

MINSTER. — Departure MINSTER net laying off Minsmere. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0835B/4.)

Operation "Grab". — Para. 6 postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1853B/4.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols. — Patrol of Orkneys Exercise area will be flown by 18 Group from 0800 till 1300/4. (C. in C. Rosyth 0814/4.)
BERT in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1300/4.)
VOE A. discontinued owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1634/4.)

Bombing Restrictions. — Keep additional watch on H.D. broadcast.
(ii) T.B.R. are in force between 58° 40' to 62° N. and 3° to 5° 30' W. until further notice. (C. in C.H.F. 1056B/4 to FURIOUS, SUFFOLK.)
Ops. 857 4/8. Cancel T.S.B.R. in Area as instituted in my Ops 797 22/7. (H.Q.C.C.1610/4.)

/Escort .....

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Escort, W.S. 10. Weather permitting expect one Whitley aircraft from 1600/4 and one Catalina from 1730/4. Latter will remain throughout the night and in order to maintain contact may have to approach within 6000 yards. (C. in C.W.A. 1350B/4 to LONDON, CAIRO, GURKHA, LEGION.)

Calais attacked. During day 3/8 no operations took place owing to weather. On night 3/4 five A/C attacked Docks and Harbour at Calais. (H.Q.B.C.1415/4.)

Convoy Escorts. (1) Experience has shown the desirability of obtaining more definite information of an aircraft being in company with a convoy or ship which it has been sent to escort. (2) - (4) Intended procedure. (C. in C.W.A. 1702B/4.)

Donibristle Decoy Site. Site (R.O. 2) complete and ready for operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1701/4.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth bombed. Gt. Yarmouth attacked night 3/4. A to D nil. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0725B/4.)

Dingle Bay. Irish Observer Corps have reported unidentified A/C near Dingle Bay a.m./3. One A/C appeared to be trying to make contact with a Yacht. (D.D.I.C. 0745B/4.)

TUNISIA. (British, 4337 Tons) sunk. AAAA TUNISIA 55° 53' N. 19° 02' W. (Liverpool W/T 1047/4.) British, 4337 tons, ex convoy S.L.81 (D.S.700) Other ships of this convoy attacked by U/B. (See U-Boat Campaign.)
TUNISIA sinking. (Valentia Radio 1157/4.)
From Valentia Radio. TUNISIA bombed and sinking. Port Boats away, starboard lifeboats smashed, jolly boat now away. 1208/4 ends. (Liverpool W/T 1412/4.)
Detach one corvette to proceed to assist TUNISIA. (C. in C.W.A. 1416B/4 to WANDERER.)
Your 1416B/4. Am proceeding 16 knots. (MALLOW 1730/4.)

/ESPERANCE .....

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Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

ESPERANCE BAY. WORCESTER, QUORN. — Convoy HATCH being shadowed by one A/C in 53° 40' N., 0° 40' E. Course and speed of convoy 150° 9 knots. (WORCESTER 1700/4).

Mining.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7). — Ship will be ready for towing at 6 knots in mederate weather by P.M./7. Ship has no dagaussing. ASSURANCE available for towing. No A/S trawlers available to escort. (A.C.I.C., 1224Z/4 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Kenmare. Report of Paratroops landed. — Following received from Irish Secret Source, usually considered reliable.
Begins - Military on the alert about 50 parachute troops landed near Kenmare. Foreign planes reported today near Waterville at 0530 G.M.T Ends. (D.D.I.C., 0745B/4 to C's. in C. W.A. and Plymouth)
My 0745B/4. For fifty Parachute troops read Twenty. (D.D.I.C., 1149B/4).
My 0745B/4. As a result of further information this report should be discounted unless a further signal is made. (D.D.I.C., 1719B/4).

TIRPITZ. — Partial R/C of Kiel on 2/8 showed TIRPITZ had left Floating Dock. Northern part of harbour not covered. (D.D.I.C., 1216B/4).

Reported Enemy Intentions. — (D.N.I., 2357B/4) See Operations Volume.

Technical.

Limitations on the use of R.D.F. — General considerations and principles for trial. (V.C.N.S. 1338B/4).

Transport of bombs in S/Ms. — Reply to Admty 0023B/4. (F.O.S., 1833B/4 and 1834B/4).

Casualties & Defects.

M.G.B.100 — Accidental fire in engine room yesterday caused damage to paintwork. Do not expect sailing delayed more than two days. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1013B/4).

/VERVAIN.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

VERVAIN (Corvette). My 2050Z/3. VERVAIN's second boiler developed defects. Have her in tow to enable defects to be made good. My position 1200/4. 023° 21' N., 022° W. (CLOVER, 1545Z/4).

PUCKERIDGE. Cancel my 1635B/4. PUCKERIDGE will be unable to sail owing to minor defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2255/4 to R.A.D.)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.10 X. Following Troopships will be included in convoy W.S.10 X. ORION, STRATHNAVER, STRATHMORE (dates) (D.S.T., 0313B/4 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland etc).

F.N., F.S. Forecast of convoy sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1100/4 to Admty etc). See Lion Copy.

Route Signals. Amending Admty 1954/7/7. (D.T.D. 1409B/4 to Cs. in C.)

O.G.70 Ships for south Atlantic Ports are to disperse at dusk to-night 4/8. Instructions for proceeding after dispersal. (D.T.D., 1738B/4 to C. in C. W.A. DEPTFORD and escorts O.G.70).

W.S.10. Numbers of troops embarked. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 1845B/4).

O.G.71 Will sail two days late. Vessels for south Africa or Transatlantic ports are not to be included. If desired these may be sailed in O.N. convoy. -(D.T.D., 1848B/4 to C. in C. W.A. etc).

H.X.139. 5 hours late at R/V with 55 ships, 5 ships lost convoy and proceeded to Iceland(C) Much fog first 7 days then fair weather. (D.T.D., 1850B/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa). Details and Cargoes. (D.S. 697, 2/8).

W.S.10 escorts. Detach A/S escort as follows. BROADWAY to proceed with WORCESTERSHIRE parting company for St. Johns N.F. at prudent limit of endurance. CAIRO, WHITEHALL, WINCHESTER, WITCH remain with convoy till dark 5/8 if fuel permits and return in company to North Channel, CAIRO proceeding Belfast and destroyers to Londonderry. GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE, PIORUN, ISAAC SWEERS remain with convoy till dark 6/8 and then return to Clyde carrying out an A/S sweep on route to be signalled. (C. in C. W.A., 1902B/4 to LONDON).

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

W.S.10. RENOWN, ARETHUSA, etc.	Reply to F.O.C.N.A., 1310B/3, amending movements in Admty., 1634B/26. (V.C.N.S., 0036B/4 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.) See Lion Copy.
VIMY.	Your 1340B/3 received. (N.T. in W.D.) (?proceeding to) 027° 18' N., 015 30' W. (? approx., position.) (VIMY 0200B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)
FRANKFURT scuttled.	Have intercepted German FRANKFURT in 031° 34' N., 037° 42' W., at 0130Z/4. Scuttled and sank. Have 26 prisoners on board, remaining 20 crew missing. (CAVINA, 0400Z/4, to Admty.) W.D. Note:- FRANKFURT left Rio de Janeiro on 27/6.
ALOUETTE.	Departure for Y.3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1002B/4.)
0.21.	My 0506 B/22. Cancel time of passing through (c). Adjust speed to arrive during daylight/5 or A.M./6. (F.O.C.N.A. 1006B/4 to S/M 0.21.)
MALVERNIAN survivors.	All 56 survivors of MALVERNIAN are en route to Gibraltar. Submit report already transmitted on conduct of men in No. 2 boat calls for enquiry. Captain's account of whole event indicates (a) further enquiry into why vessel was not located drifting for 19 days considering her position and (b) highest commendation of conduct of C.O., and ship's company generally with exception mentioned above. (N.A. Madrid, 1155C/4, to Admty.)
Operation "Style".	Report amplifying his 1836/1 and 2025/3. (S.O. Force H., 1301B/4 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.
JUPITER KOS. 7 and KOS. 9. CUMBRAE.	May call on about dates given at Ponta Delgada and Fayal. Fuel required. (D.O.D. (F) 1321B/4 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

/RENOWN.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

RENOWN PASTEUR ARETHUSA MANXMAN MANCHESTER.	Your 0036B/4 and reference 2025/3 from S.O. Force H., As repairs to RENOWN may take upward of 6 days propose to sail PASTEUR with ARETHUSA, MANXMAN and 2 destroyers. Intend to send 15 officers, 167 ratings of MANCHESTER in PASTEUR, retaining full crew for all effective armaments. (F.O.C.N.A., 1420B/4 to Admty.)
RENOWN PASTEUR.	Your 1927B/4th. Anticipate sailing RENOWN, PASTEUR and four Destroyers on 8/8. (F.O.C.N.A. 1824B/4 to Adty.)
French Shipping.	Gibraltar 1255/4 French armed trawler LA TOUONNAISE AISNE laden full deck cargo lorries BRESTOIS light 1 motor boat on deck westbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1833A/4.)
FRANKFURT intercepted by CAVINA.	Your 1306B/3, para. 1, is being dealt with. In particular case of CAVINA it is undesirable in view of CAVINA's 0400Z/4 that ship should call at Ponta Delgada en route for Gibraltar. Request you arrange for CAVINA to call at Ponta Delgada before proceeding to her patrol. (D.O.D.(F) 1925B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ARDEOLA, personnel.	Your 1247/29/7. Party left in vessel named p.m./4. (Consul, Teneriffe 2100/4.)
Operation "Style".	Arrival S.O. Force H. NELSON. RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE, ARETHUSA, MANXMAN, COSSACK, MAORI, NESTOR, FAULKNOR, FURY, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, ENCOUNTER, SIKH, LIGHTNING. 2230B/4. (F.O.C.N.A.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

WIPUNEN. Following from C.C.S.O. Trinidad. Censorship reveals Finnish WIPUNEN cleared New York for Finland arrived Rio de Janeiro 17/6. (Cargo) Locally understood vessel and cargo for sale but owner ordered vessel to proceed to Montevideo by 27/7. T.O.O. 1130Q/3.
(C. in C. S.A., 0935N/4, to S.A.D.)
C. in C. S.A. 0935/4. Endeavour to intercept Finnish WIPUNEN expected secretly leaving Rio de Janeiro 4/8 for Montevideo.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1504Z/4 to S.A.D.)

W.S.9B. TAMAROA. Your 0338/31/5 part 2 (b) (Defects to troopships) Convoy W.S.9.B. TAMAROA requires drydocking, extensive examination, and repairs to main engines boilers auxiliary machinery and refrigerator. Remainder no defects.
(P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1049B/4, to D. of S.T.)

NYHOLM. S.O.I. Kingston's 1637/3. NYHOLM, Norwegian, is at St. Helena.
(S.O.I. Freetown 1150N/4, to Admty etc.)

BIRMINGHAM. Sailed 1330 N/4 direct for L 31 or as ordered by you to arrive with not less than 40% fuel. BIRMINGHAM will come under your control on crossing 015° S., E.T.A., L.31 P.M./13.
(C. in C. S.A. 1151N/4, to R.A.S.A.D.)

A.M.C.'s. A.M.C.s are no longer to be sailed as Ocean Escort to S.L. Convoys which are provided with through A/S escort. Pending further decision as to their disposal, A.M.C.s so released may be employed as required by C. in C. S.A.
(V.C.N.S., 1209B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

VILLE DE ROUEN. (French.) DUNEDIN'S 0932/23/7 not to Admiralty. Vichy Ship VILLE DE ROUEN arrived East London 3/8, under armed guard and has been requisitioned by Union Govt., without incident. Ship is being turned over to M. of W.T.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1316B/4 to Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

/O.S.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

O.S. and S.L. Convoys, Freetown.	Your 1931/26. In view of end to end escort now required for S.L. and O.S. Convoys, not proposed to route slower ships from Cape to Freetown except for 2 ships per month which M. of W.T. is considering to meet requirements for stores and provisions from South Africa. Intended, however, that ships from U.K. bound for Cape which require to bunker en route should sail in O.S. Convoys (approximately 5 per convoy) calling at Freetown. Requested you will sail these ships and any West Coast ships available in Convoy on completion of bunkering, dispersing them at your discretion in longitude of Takoradi. No increase in escort forces is possible at present. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1405B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
WIVERN BOREAS WILD SWAN.	Your 2109N/(?2). Intend sailing with BOREAS and WILD SWAN on completion of oiling 1630N. E.T.A. 1700B/9. (WIVERN 1530Z/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
R.D.F. and Raiders.	Your 1135/2 last sentence. Two units have been identified in S. Atlantic this year. R.F.P. equipment and classification of results are still in development stage. A.L. M.015700 date 26/10/1940 and my 2029/21/1/41. refer. (D.N.I., 1631B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)
MOSCHA D. KYDONIEFS.	Have you any news of Greek MOSCHA.D.KYDONIEFS from Lagos due 28/7? (D.T.D. 1733B/4. to N.C.S.O. Freetown.)
NORDERNEY (German.)	Chief of Naval Staff informs me M.F.A., has given permission NORDERNEY to sail, permission will be issued tomorrow. S.O.(I) Freetown, pass to C. in C. S.A. (N.A. Rio de Janeira, 2050Z/4 to Admty etc.)
?	Your 1759/29 (N.T. in W.R.) N.A. Buenos Aires asks me to inform you permission is granted for 24 hours. Extension to 48 subject to commission being satisfied that repairs will require the additional time. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2316Z/4, to R.A.S.A.D.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

CACHALOT. Italian official statement 4/8 claims CACHALOT rammed and cut in two by Italian torpedo boat. 91 men of crew rescued and taken prisoner. (The Times, 5/8).

PROTEUS, PORPOISE. Desired to transport a number of 4,000 lbs. bombs to Malta in PROTEUS and PORPOISE. Report number of bombs which can be taken. (V.C.N.S., 0023B/4 to F.O.S.) Refly: as Technical.

Operation "Guillotine". Following is a repetition of my 1145C/3 (N.T. in W.R.). Serial 14 KIPLING, Serial 15 NEPTUNE, ABDIEL, JACKAL. All above leave Alexandria P.M./4 E.T.A. Port Said 0830C/5. (F.O.C. 7th C.S. 0346C/4).

Benghazi bombed. Night 2/3. 13 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting fires on Cathedral Mole. Further 5 Wellingtons laid ten mines in Approaches to harbour.

Cyrene, Bardia Gambut bombed. 2 Wellingtons bombed Cyrene and Bardia. 4 F.A.A. Albacores bombed enemy aircraft on Gambut Aerodrome causing number of small explosions. (H.Q., R.A.F., ME. 1019/4).

Operation "Guillotine". Following troops are to be embarked at Famagusta in ABDIEL and Destroyers. Serial 14, 400 for Alexandria, Serial 15,70 for Haifa. (C. in C. Med., 1042C/4 to S and A. in "Guillotine")

Port Said, Raid. Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40 Q (a) Port Said 0200C to 0410C/4. Clear, cloudless (b) high level two or three at a time. Number believed to be about 8 type not known. Parachute flares used. Moon in second quarter, moon set 0305C. (c) Apparently (i) only (d) 8 on Port Said town and Port Fouad, probably kilos 500 (e) (i) nil to Naval ships and establishments, nil to merchant ships (ii) nil to naval personnel, civilians casualties believed nearly 50. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 1221C/4 to Admty).

Syria. Free French and control and defence of ports. (C. in C. Med., 1240C/4 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Personnel in unescorted M.V.s. Following is repetition of my 1910/31 begins."Your 1744B/16/7. Para two (h). To limitation of service personnel to hundred to be disregarded in the case of ships of more than 18 knots speed in Indian ocean and Austmlian waters ends", this is unavoidable your 0308B/4.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1230/4 to Admty).

/Suez Canal.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Canal Raid.

8 to 9 A/C in 2 waves raided canal area between 2200 C and 0410 C 3-4/8. Many parachute flares and 6 to 8 bombs Port Said town and port of Fouad. Some civilian casualties only. Planes flew very low at Suez. About 12 bombs dropped. A.S.I.S. ESCAUT sunk and DESMOULEA hit both by aerial torpedoes, latter will probably be beached. ALEXANDRE ANDRE reported torpedoed under way 8 miles off Zafarana (?Kalafrana) Light details not known. (?L) ISNORE rendered assistance. One U.X. mine or bomb suspected in Suez Roads and possibly one at Km. 4.5 in canal. Canal and terminal ports open subject to minesweeping. No naval casualties or damage. Layer patrol at Suez for period of 50 minutes failed to contact enemy where 15 balloons were flying. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1259C/4 to Admty etc).

Malta Raid. Tripoli bombed. 2 M/V's hit.

Night 3/4. 6 raiders. Bombs mainly in sea. Few on land destroyed part of a church and few houses. 4 Blenheims attacked Tripoli harbour p.m. 1 M.V. 8,000 tons direct hit 1 500 lb. bomb, big explosion and much debris thrown high in the air. 1 hit M/V 5,000 tons against quay and left on fire. Near misses on 2 other M.V.s 2 direct hits on block of buildings believed air H.Q. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/4).

UNIQUE, UPRIGHT.

UNIQUE reports enemy surface patrol of M.A.S. and destroyer(s) very frequent off Del Armi during operation SUBSTANCE. On 24/7 UNIQUE heard UPRIGHT attack on floating dock 14 miles to eastward at 1237 and closed coast to attack also. At 1455 three destroyers passed westwards out of formation at moderate speed. UNIQUE remained within 5 miles of coast until 1800 but nothing seen of dock or of Eastbound assistance. Consider that the three destroyers were dock escort who finished counter attacking UPRIGHT at 1400 and that dock was sunk.
At 0325/29 a train was blown up on East Sicily Line in 038° 01'.
At 0115/30, 2 charges were placed on railway on South Calabrian Coast in 015° 55', no train passed before dawn and result was not observed.
During afternoon/30 a 4 masted schooner lying stopped 30 miles east of Catania was approached. 3 Breda guns were observed and what appeared to be 2 collapsable deck houses. One mark 2 torpedo fired at 600 yards which inexplicably missed second schooner appeared from disengaged side and searching aircraft but hunt easily avoided. (S.O.S., Malta, 1747B/4 to Capt. S.1.)

/TORBAY.....

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TORBAY. Proceed to establish patrol close off Ras-el-Melh (031° 56' 025° 02') keep North of 031° 52'. Be in position by 0500C/6 but do not cross 033° N., until after dark/5th. Important to avoid being sighted. (Capt. S.1., 1918C/4 to TORBAY). My 1915C/4 and my 1918C/4. Patrol tanker speed 10 knots expected from N.W. to pass through RORQUAL's position daylight/6 to arrive Bardia dusk/6. RORQUAL is to report as soon as possible if target has been sighted. (Capt. S.1. 1923C/4 to TORBAY, RORQUAL). My 1918.
Information of own forces. (Capt. S.1. 2137C/4 to TORBAY).

Service Personnel. Your 1000/31/7. War Office decision is that enrolled Indian followers are to be included in limit of 100 military personnel for unescorted vessels. (D.O.D. (F), 1935B/4 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

Enemy Convoys Tripoli. Quick turn round in not more than 4 days of last Tripoli convoy consisting of 5 large M./Vs suggests either troops are arriving or leaving. Our experience of unloading convoys shows that it would be impossible to unload stores in this short time. Convoys are now very heavily escorted in both directions. Above appears significant in view of Cairo patrols report's of Panzer divisions being withdrawn far back.
(V.A. Malta, 2006B/4 to Aden.).

Situation Report No. 107. (Recapitulation of information already dealt with in other signals.) (C. in C. Med., 2356C/4)
See Lion Copy.

East Indies.

ANSON. Admty 1746/30. Request what policy is to be adopted regarding disguise and secrecy of ANSON whilst at Mombasa and whether any leave restrictims are to be imposed. May Officers and ratings not required for steaming party be utilized on station as required? (C. in C. E.I., 1120Z/4 to Admty).

Iran. Re report of German inspired revolt. (W.O. 2055/4 to Brit. Mil. Mission No. 30) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DUPLEIX (French). — From Saigon bound for France has been intercepted by Dutch and taken into Tanjong Priok. (C. in C. China, 0233Z/4 to Admty C.S. Singapore, 0724Z/4 to Admty., Batavia 0355Z/4 to D. of S.T.)

BURGENLAND, HAVENSTEIN, URSULA RICKMERS. — Kobe 1/8 has entered Mitsubishi Dock. Dairen departure 31/7 (URSULA RICKMERS returned to anchorage). Believed both ships will be on the Japan Dairen run. (Capt. C.S. Singapore, 0727Z/4 to Admty etc).

SI KIANG, COMPIEGNE. (French) — Departure 2/8. SI KIANG Haiphong; 4/8 COMPIEGNE, Madagascar. (Saigon 1006Z/4 to M. of W.T.)

America & West Indies.

Grand Banks. Patrol. — My 1758Z/29. CHILLIWACK returned from Grand Banks Patrol with nothing to report. (C.C.N.F. 0259Z/4).

NORTHUMBERLAND. — Y our 2142/28/7. Request reasons why accommodation was considered unsatisfactory. (D.S.T., 0311B/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

FIDRA (Finnish). — My 1246R/29/7. Ship sailed 31/7 for Philadelphia. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0858R/4 to Admty etc).

R.C.N. — Your 1314/2. No change in the employment of the R.C.N. is contemplated. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1051B/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Escort Groups, Iceland. — My 1234/4/30. And Group 24 with C.N.5. (C.C.N.F., 1226Z/4 to A.C.I.C.)

A/S Equipment RICHMOND. — Your 1415Z/23 and 1307Z/2 not to Admiralty. Arrangements for taking ship cannot be made unless Admiralty approves allocation to U.S.A. Ship can be accepted if approved by Admiralty. (B.A.R.M. Washington, 1240R/4 to C.C.N.F.)

S/Ms Repaired in U.S.A. TRUANT. — To enable S/Ms to prepare themselves for active service and complete with special stores not available in U.S.A. on completion of refits, suggest they should be routed to FORTH for a short working up period. TRUANT is due to complete on 16/8. If TRUANT is not to proceed to St. Johns N.F. request instructions with regard to her destination. (B.A.R.M., 1242R/4 to Admty).

/MURENA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

4.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

MURENA.
ROZENBURG. — My 1523Z/3. MURENA and ROZENBURG in collision, ROZENBURG sunk, MURENA some damage, no casualties. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1617Z/4.)

T.C.12 B. — Proposed ships and date. (D.S.T. 1717B/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.) See Lion Copy.

WARSPITE. — Honolulu departure 1900Z/4. Anticipate entering A. and W.I. Station at 1200Z/6. E.T.A. Bremerton 2200Z/11 anchoring previous night off Esquimalt. Local officials informed. (WARSPITE 1905Z/4.)

CIRCASSIA. — In view of Adty. 1209B/4 (being passed to R.A.3.B.S.) propose CIRCASSIA or another A.M.C. be allocated to A. and W.I. Station, which is short of cruisers, instead of proceeding to South Atlantic as at present arranged. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1922B/4 to Adty.)

RESOLUTION. — Your 2341/14 and 0908/30. Not intended to send ratings from U.K. RESOLUTION should be completed to war complement by using passengers in WARSPITE and by drawing on crews of LIVERPOOL and DIDO. Any deficiency will be supplied by WARSPITE. Your 0920R/30. Officers taking passage in WARSPITE should meet requirements of RESOLUTION. (D.P.S.2030B/4 to B.A.R.M.)

Australia.

AORANGI. — Ref. N.Z.N.B's 1705/21/7, it is intended to use AORANGI on the U.K./Middle East Service. Request your views. (D.S.T.0310B/4 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 4.8.1941. Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

O.G.69. My 1428B/30. If you now have necessary information, grateful to know if you consider there are any survivors of O.G. 69 whom it might still be possible to rescue. (C. in C.W.A.1931B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.

BOTWEY. (sunk 26/7.) Entire crew has been landed at Greenock. (D.S.699, 4/8.)

HOLMSIDE. (torpedoed 19/7.) Time and position now given as 1040/19/7, 19° N., 21° 30' W., 245° Cape Blanco 270'. (D.S. 699, 4/8.)

Submarines Reported.

2315/3. D/F bearing at 2315/3 G.M.T. Italian U-boat may be within 037° N. 038° N. 014° W. 015° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0415B/4 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U.B. dispositions. (D.D.I.C.1422B/4.)

S.L.81. Indications that several U/B's and an enemy A/C have been near Convoy S.L.81 and are probably still shadowing. Last 3 enemy signals were at 1256Z, 1257Z and 1311Z. (D.D.I.C. 1542B/4 to CAPE SABLE, WANDERER, CAMPBELTOWN, ST. ALBANS, HYDRANGEA, MALLOW, WALLFLOWER.) D/F bearings at 1747Z/4 indicate U-boats still in the vicinity of Convoy S.L.81. (D.D.I.C. 2359B/4.)

1555. Following has been read. Am investigating possible conning tower in 59.44 N., 19.18 W. (A/C 15 Sqdn. 1555/4.)

One enemy submarine on the surface bearing 270° 8 miles course 280°. Position 31.21 N., 24.19 W. based on fix 1300, speed 15 knots. (N.G.C.S. Block 1, 2040Z/4, Halifax N.S. 2040/4.) My 2040, submarine dived. (Block Call, 2050Z/4 via. Gib. W/T.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Owing to bad weather all operations last night by Bomber Command were cancelled.

It is reported that Blenheims to-day attacked and twice hit a merchant ship, apparently the ex-Danish VIBORG in convoy off Hook of Holland. Three reporting vessels are reported to have been hit by Blenheims 57 miles north of Borkum. Several other attacks were carried out on shipping between the Hook and Heligoland Bight.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing vessels in Transgisvaag Fiord (Faeroes) were unsuccessfully attacked this afternoon by a single A/C.

Mining.

An acoustic mine exploded, apparently harmlessly, under the stern of M.V. DOMINENCE in 51° 58' 45" N. 1° 30' 10" E.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

C. in C. Med. to-day sent a message to the Admiralty with regard to the maintenance of supplies to Tobruk.

Benghazi, Bardia and Derna were bombed last night.

Canal Area.

There was an air raid on the Suez Zone and Delta, chiefly directed against Ismailia in the early hours of this morning. No naval damage, but one casualty was caused and civilian casualties are believed to number 270. Port Said was closed early this morning but was reopened at 1024. Some delay was caused to Operation Guillotine. Later, two mines exploded near Khassab 99, damaging the small tug PHOENIX.

/Syria....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Syria. Convoy Z, French ships for repatriation of Vichy French has arrived at Beirut.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack on S.L.81. 6 ships sunk U-boat sunk. Convoy S.L. 81, which was shadowed yesterday was attacked last night and early this morning in approx. 53° N. 16° W. to 53½° N. 15° 40' W. 5 ships are reported to have been torpedoed, viz. CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN, SWIFTPOOL, BELGRAVIAN, KUMASIAN. In addition, TUNISIA was sunk by aircraft yesterday.

Special air cover was provided for the convoy to-day, and aircraft made two attacks on U-boats in the neighbourhood of the convoy. During the second of these attacks two direct hits with 500 lb. A/S bombs are claimed on the U-boat.

ZINNIA, one of the escort, attacked with depth charges a U-boat which was attacking the convoy, at 0200B today in 52° 54' N. 15° 53' W and reports that an unknown merchant ship (VOLTURNO) in the convoy also secured a hit on the conning tower. ZINNIA considers the U-boat to have been destroyed

SIDNEY was reported torpedoed in the early hours of this morning in 31° N. 26° W.

A U-boat was reported in approx. 70° N. 33° E. (90 miles north of Murmansk) today.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M.V's. — My 1101/4. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/5 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1159/5).

Western Patrol. — Your 1226B/11/7. As amended in your 1711B/25/7 approved. (Head of M. 2259B/5 to C. in C. W.A).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Fighter A/C. — United States Fighter Aircraft arriving shortly in Iceland will probably be unable to make any recognition signals. These aircraft are single engine Tomahawks similar in general appearance to Hurricanes. (C. in C. W.A. 0930B/5 to W.A)

Task Force 16. — Delayed at least 24 hours by Fog. (D.D.I.C. 0305B/5).

Co-operation with Russia.

British S.N.O. Murmansk 14360/5. See Operations Volume.

Murmansk. — Your 2244C/3, para. 3. Request you will report present stocks of fuel and amount and date of arrival of further supplies. (A.C.N.S. H. 2256B/5 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno).

Movements.

Task Force 16. — Delayed at least twenty-four hours by fog. (D.D.I.C. 0305B/5 to A.C.I.C).

FURIOUS.
SUFFOLK.
ECHO.
ECLIPSE. — Arrived Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 0836B/5).

QUORN. — Part company at East Spile and proceed to Harwich.(C. in C. Nore 0927B/5 to QUORN).

/ADVENTURE.....

INCOMPLETE. MOST SECRET.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack on S.L.81. Convoy S.L.81, which was shadowed yesterday was attacked last night and early this morning in approx. 53° N. 16° W. to 53½° N. 15° 40' W. At least 5 ships are reported to have been torpedoed, viz: CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN, SWIFT POOL, BELGRAVIAN, KUMASIAN.

ZINNIA, one of the escort, attacked a U-boat which was attacking the convoy, at 0200B today in 52° 54' N. 15° 53'W. and reports that an unknown merchant ship in the convoy secured a hit on the conning tower. ZINNIA considers the U-boat to have been destroyed.

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MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

ADVENTURE.
SHROPSHIRE.

ADVENTURE sailed from Archangel at 10000/4, speed of advance 14 knots.
(ii) ADVENTURE (? is), if practicable, to keep North of 75° N. until West of 015° E. and is then to pass through 072° N. 001° E., 069° N. 005° W. Thence to Scapa.
(iii) SHROPSHIRE is to proceed with all convenient despatch to meet and cover return passage of ADVENTURE.
(iv) There are five German destroyers in Northern Norway. (C. in C. H.F. 1032B/5).
Expected to pass through 069° N. 005° W. at 0001Z/7 at speed of advance of 20 knots. Thence through 072° N. 001° E., thence towards 075° N. 015° E.
(ii) My 1305Z/5 refers.
(SHROPSHIRE 1310Z/5 to ADVENTURE).

Larne and Stranraer Ferry.

Your 1215/15/7. Military personnel ships will cross between Larne and Stranraer by day.
2. Ship will leave Stranraer at 0830 daily except Mondays and Larne at 1500 daily except Saturdays.
3. This new arrangement will start from Larne on 17/8 and from Stranraer of 19/8.
4. Request air protection be arranged accordingly. (D.O.D.H. 1756B/5).

PORPOISE.

Your 1833B/4 and 1834B/4.
Air Ministry require only 12 of these bombs. Would you prefer all to go in PORPOISE.
2. It is not intended to ship mines in PORPOISE but to use available space for essential stores to Malta.
3. D.N.C. is taking action to manufacture special containers. (Controller 2130B/5 to F.O.S).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.8.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Canal Area-Contd.

No Naval or casualties were caused.

CARLISLE has left Alexandria for Suez as A.A. guard ship.

Cyprus.

Operation "Guillotine" is continuing.

China

It is reported that the French SS DUPLEIX from Saigon bound for France has been intercepted by the Dutch and taken to Tanjong Priok.

U-Boat Campaign

There were indications today that S.L. 81 was being shadowed by U-Boats and enemy aircraft.

MOST SECRET.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation F.B. DAGNY I. GARLAND.

Your 2232B/4. DAGNY I has 40 male volunteers. (S.O. Force A 1029B/5).
Return to Greenock after you have complied with C. in C. H.F. 2232B/4. (C. in C. W.A. 1237B/5 to GARLAND).

Exercise LEAPFROG.

D.C.O. C5/50 of 31/7. IRIS will not take part in exercise. PRINCE CHARLES will be the only Belgium taking part. (D.T.S.D. 1326B/5 to V.A. C.T.C).
Two of the three vessels of the 1st M.S. F. if available at Scapa should co-operate in Exercise LEAPFROG from about 11 to 16/8. (A.C.N.S. H. 1923B/5).

S/M. O.14. Patrol.

(a) Request Netherlands S/M O.14 may be sailed for Lerwick as convenient after relief by P.31.
(b) Capt. (S) 9 is to arrange O.14 to be sailed for a patrol in zone C.3 on 13"8 in accordance with F.S.B. Latest intelligence will reach Capt. (S) 9 on 6/8 and when circumstances permit patrol is to be carried out in vicinity of two positions mentioned therein. These positions are not to be taken to sea in Submarine in writing. C.O. of O.14 is to have complete freedom to withdraw from these positions at his discretion. (F.O.S. 1636B/5 to A.C.O.S).

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

STAB and BERT in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1134/5).
TROST in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1454/5).
STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2042/5).

One Trawler attacked.

During day 4/8 A/C attacked a Trawler type vessel 40 miles north of Schiemonnikoog. One bomb was seen to graze the stern and burst, another was a near miss, and the vessel was machine gunned.
On night 4/5 all operations were cancelled owing to weather.
(H.Q.B.C. 1400/5).

Portsmouth Area. Fighter A/C arrangements.

My 1657B/21 June. Amend Portsmouth area 3 to read as follows. Code word CHAIN. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1417B/5).

/Escorts.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.8.1941.
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic

A.M.C's are no longer to be sailed as ocean escort to S.L. convoys which are provided with through A/S escort.

Mediterranean

Malta — A few aircraft bombed Malta last night. No Naval damage was caused.

CACHALOT Sunk. — An Italian official statement today claims that an Italian T.B. has rammed, and sunk CACHALOT.

2 Blenheims sank an 800 ton schooner off Misurata today whilst searching for an intended target.

Libya and Western Desert. — Tripoli convoys are now very heavily escorted in both directions, and the quick turn round of the last convoy suggests that troops are either arriving or leaving. There are reports of Panzer divisions being withdrawn far back.

8 Wellingtons bombed Derna port last night. 1 Wellington attacked shipping off the coast of Cyrenaica, 2 ships each of 3000 tons are believed to have been hit 15 miles west of Apollonia.

Canal Area. — There was a heavy air raid on Port Said and Suez in the early hours of today by a few aircraft. ESCAUT was sunk and DESMOULEA was hit, both by aerial torpedoes.

SS ALEXANDRE ANDRE is reported to have been torpedoed under way 8 miles off Kalafrana Light. One U.X.B. or mine is suspected in Suez Roads and possibly one in the Canal. The Canal and terminal ports are open subject to mine sweeping.

/No Naval....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Escorts for Force R.B. — Signal this H.Q. and above addressees details of present and intended escorts to force RB. (15 Group 1700 G.M.T./5 to R.A.F. Iceland, repeated H.Q.C.C., Adty., C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

NORLAND. — (A.P. Trawler) Reports at 2230/4 bombing attack by an A/C which crashed in flames near 54B Buoy. No report of damage or casualties. (C. in C. Nore 0655B/5).

Convoy S.L. 81. — 3 F.W. aircraft in vicinity of S.L. 81. (D.D.I.C. 1341B/5 to WANDERER, etc.)

TIGRIS sighted — TIGRIS reports being sighted by Heinkel aircraft in 63° 43' N. 02° 02' W. at 0653 29/7. H.S. routine read submerged satisfactorily throughout passage. (B.S.N.O. Polyarno 14320/5 to F.O.S.)

Fishing Vessels attacked. — Single enemy twin engine monoplane carrying bombs and machine guns attacked fishing vessels in Transgisvaag Fiord at 1410. No casualties or damage. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1616/5).

Enemy Patrols. — Dornier Patrols encountered in 073° N. 014° E. today. (S.O. Force A 1823B/5 to F.O.S).

CAROLINA THORDEN. (Bombed 31/3) — A.M. 2252B/2. Weather permitting tow should be ready to proceed on arrival of escort. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 2215B/5).

Mining.

ACHATES. (Mined 25/7) — Constructor Commander confirms N.O.I.C. Iceland's 12242/4. Favourable weather is essential for towing. (S.N.O. Seidis Fiord 1330A/5).

Off Harwich on 4/8. — Following received from F.O.I.C. Yarmouth. Motor Vessel DOMINENCE reports acoustic mine exploded under her stern in 51° 58' 45" N. 1° 30' 10" E. Not making any water as far as can be ascertained. 1843B/4/8. (C. in C. Nore 2223B/5)

INCOMPLETE

MOST SECRET

War Diary

4.8.41.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

STOKE CITY this morning reported sighting a large tanker proceeding west about off Myggenenes, too far off to intercept.

ADVENTURE sailed from Archangel at 1000 C today. SHROPSHIRE is to cover her return passage.

British Air Operations

5 Whitleys attacked Calais dock and harbour installations last night.

Bomber Command operations were restricted today by bad weather. Shipping off the Dutch coast was attacked, but no special successes are claimed.

Enemy Air Operations

TUNISIA was bombed and sunk this morning in 53° 53' N., 19° 2' W.

A.P. Trawler NORLAND reports being attacked at 2230 today in the Thames Estuary by an aircraft which crashed in flames. There is no report of damage to the trawler.

North Atlantic

FRANKFURT Scuttled.

CAVINA, O.B.V., intercepted German FRANKFURT, which had left Rio de Janeiro on 27/6, at 0130Z/4 in 31.34 N., 37.42 W. She was scuttled and sunk. 26 prisoners were taken and there are 20 missing.

Operation "Style"

Forces H. and X. returned to Gibraltar this evening.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. At 1245/5 photographs show SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINZ EUGEN in dry dock. (D.D.I.C. 1537B/5).

Oil fuel, destroyers, S/M's in northern waters. Following from Soviet Authorities here.
1. At Tromso 2900 tons of oil fuel 2700 tons of petrol 3000 tons of Diesel fuel. Number of oil tanks situated in entrance to Ramfiord in approx. 69° N. 31° 8' E. Tanker ROGH with 1200 tons of fuel also present.
2. At Kirkeness 21/7 present KARL GALSTER, HANS LODY, RICHARD BEITZEN, HERMANN SCHOEMANN, FRIEDRICH ECKOLDT transport HAMDOLTD. ,At Horten S/M's nos. 443 and 570. At Bergen S/M s nos. 125 and 137. (British S.N.O. Murmansk 2010C/5).

Miscellaneous.

Belfast. As from 10/8 the Port of Belfast from the Pile Lt. will be closed between 2200 and 0500. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1700/5).

Casualties and Defects.

Hulk adrift. Tug MARAUDER is standing by hulk adrift in 238° 8 miles from Mull of Kintyre at 2001B/5. (C. in C. W.A. 2240B/5).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G. 69. O.G. 70. If JONQUIL COREOPSIS SPIREA STELLA CARINA are still with H.G. 69 suggest they be ordered transfer to O.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar with that convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1122/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.11A cancelled. Cancel my 0321/30. Convoy W.S.11.A. has been cancelled. Alternative arrangements for C.2. C.3 and C.5. have already been notified. Further signal will follow regarding C.1 and C.4. (D. of S.T. 1200B/5 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland).

O.G.71. Owing to Corvettes being used to escort S.L. 81 and now being engaged in hunting and picking up survivors there will be no through escort for O.G. 71 until 13/8. Propose to sail O.G. 71 on 13/8 and that H.G. 72 be cancelled. Ships sailing in H.G. 73 being escorted by the 2 U.K. escort Groups of O.G. 71 and O.G.72. (C. in C. W.A. 1253B/5 to Admty.) Concur (D.T.D. 0121B/7).

/W.N. 62.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

W.N. 62. 12 hours late. (BLACKFLY 1420B/5).

Blue stern lights. Commodores of Convoys are to be informed that on and after 15/8 ships sailing from U.K. ports will be equipped with the new electric blue stern lights. These are intended to facilitate station-keeping on dark nights without disclosing the position of the convoy. (D.T.D. 1949B/5 to A.I.G. 26).

Capture of Merchant Ships through failure to adopt sufficient counter measures. Pass to N.O.S.O's. A.M. 1345B/20/6. Cancel Example (3). (A.C.N.S.(T) 2302B/5 to A.I.G. 26, 19)

W.S.8.C. Following destroyers to be sailed as escort for W.S.8C. BULLDOG, INTREPID, ECHO, CHARLESTOWN and CASTLETON from Clyde; WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH join from Londonderry. On completion of escort duties BULLDOG, WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH are to return to their base. (C. in C. W.A. 2314B/5 to N.O.I.C.'s Greenock, Londonderry).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raider Situation.

A.C.N.S.(H) 1620B/5 See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

0.21 French tanker.	Position 0001A/5 038° 10' N. 001° 36' E. E.T.A. 0737A/6. Sighted French tanker LANGANGER (ex Norwegian) 1400A/4 038° 16' N. 004° 22' E. course 340° speed 7 knots empty. (0.21 0001A/5 to F.O.C.N.A).
French shipping.	Passed 4/8. Westbound AISNE full BRESTOIS in ballast. (F.O.C.N.A. 0915B/5).
BEVERLEY.	Left Ponta Delgada 2245/3 to rejoin H.G. 69. (F.O.C.N.A. 1016B/5 to C. in C. W.A. BIDEFORD).
Watering O.B.V's.	It is under consideration to send O.B.V's during the course of the next 3 months to Ponta Delgada, Madeira or the Canaries to complete with water. 2. Not more than 4 ships will be involved. Each ship would require 700 to 800 tons of water. 3. Request information whether sufficient supplies of water are likely to be available. (D.O.D. (F) 1209B/5 to N.C.S.O.'s Ponta Delgada, Madeira, Las Palmas).
PARTHIAN.	Instructions for proceeding to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1508B/5).
Operation Style.	Their Lordships congratulate you on the planning and execution of your diversion which has enabled your operations to be concluded in so dashing a style. (V.C.N.S. 1557B/5 to F.O. Force H).

Your 1159B/4th. Position given for 1200/10 does not correspond with that given in C. in C., W.A. 2145B/4. Request confirmation. (F.O.C.N.A. 1602B/5 to Adty.)

/A/C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

A/C force landed in Morocco. Spanish Ministry of Marine tell me unofficially British aircraft made forced landing near Laraiche yesterday. When native troops approached aircraft another aircraft machine gunned them landed and took off crew of first machine. No one hurt but there will be protest. (N.A. Madrid 1745/5).

Teneriffe. My 1110/31 and your 1915B/29. Details of defences. (Teneriffe 2015/5 to Admty.)

ARDEOLA. VIMY. Your 1340, R.3 S.S. ARDEOLA not met. My position is 027° 18' N. 015° 30' W. since noon. Proceeding Gibraltar E.T.A. 1400A/8 unless ARDEOLA met en route. (VIMY 2200B/5 to F.O.C.N.A).

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY. (German). Quoting N.A. Rio de Janeiro's 2050Z/4 re permission to NORDERNEY to sail. (C. in C. S.A., 0221N/5 to S.A. Stn.)

WIPUNEN Finnish. Your 0935N/4. Rio de Janeiro reports unlikely to sail in near future as local authorities are intervening. Oil and petrol on deck were destined for Petsamo to refuel trucks employed there for transportation of cargo. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 0216Z/5 to C. in C. S.A).

CATHAY. Admty 1209/4/8. CATHAY arranged to sail today 5/8 with S.L. 83, has 90 passengers on board, is due for boiler cleaning on arrival, opportunity for making good outstanding defects. Intend unless other instructions issued, she shall sail with S.L. 83 and have defects made good as arranged. Propose ship be taken up river and have any outstanding equipment fitted, then return to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1155N/5 to Admty.)

MOSCHA D. KYDONIEFS. Your 1733B/4. Greek MOSCHA D. KYDONIEFS' arrived 29/7. (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1216N/5 to Adty.)

BROOMDALE. Be at F. O by daylight/8. (R.A.S.A.D. 14342/5 to BROOMDALE).

/BIRMINGHAM.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.-contd.

BIRMINGHAM. — On crossing lat. 015° south proceed to arrive anchorage F.O. (C.S.A.I. 14) at daylight/14 where R.A.S.A.D. will transfer from NEWCASTLE to you. You will fuel from Oiler BROOMDALE on arrival. (R.A.S.A.D. 1437Z/5 to BIRMINGHAM).

VERVAIN. — My 1545Z/4 not to C. in C. S.A. VERVAIN under her own power since 2100/4th. One boiler only. My position 2200/5 018° 50' N. 020° 35' W. course 171° speed 10½ knots. (CLOVER 2130Z/5 to C. in C. S.A).

ADVANCE Finnish. — Santos reports, requests to proceed to Buenos Ayres on 9/8 with cargo of Bananas. Also to take cargo of Cement from Buenos Ayres to Bahia. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2151Z/5 to R.A.S.A.D).

TOKAI MARU. — Japanese, left Rio de Janeiro 4/8 for Yokohama due 1/9. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2231Z/5 to S.O.I. Kingston).

Mediterranean.

Port Said. — Port Said closed.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 0428C/5 to NEPTUNE, CARLISLE)
(R.A. Alexandria 0509C/5 to HOBART)
Cancelled (R.A. Alexandria, 1022C/5, N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1024/5).

CACHALOT overdue. — Regret CACHALOT is now overdue 28 hours. CACHALOT had not replied to my 1155C/4, Broadcast six times by Malta W/T Station between 2240C/4 and 0337C/5 and three times by Rugby W/T Station between 1407C/4 and 0232C/5. Italian broadcast at 0800/5 claimed that CACHALOT had been rammed and sunk by E-boat and that 91 prisoners were taken. It is believed there were 71 on board including passengers. (Capt. S.1, 0943C/5 to C. in C. Med.).

/Air.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Air Operations. Night 4/5 Aug. about 20 enemy aircraft operated over Suez Canal Zone and Delta. Some bombs fell in Ismalia village. No serious damage reported. Night 3/4 Aug. 8 Wellingtons bombed Derna Port destroying 2 buildings near base of Mole and starting fires. 1 A.A. Battery silenced. 1 Wellington attacked shipping off coast of Cyrenaica. 2 ships each 3,000 tons believed hit 15 miles west of Apollonia. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1009/5).

TALISMAN. Reports 4 NAVIGATORI class sighted steering 290° at 20 knots half mile south of (?Marittimo) at dawn/3. No defects but minor adjustments required Intend sailing TALISMAN p.m./8 direct for Alexandria as she has on board 17 tons of gear and 8 spare parts and is therefore not efficient for offensive action. (S.O. S/M's Malta 1131B/5, 1731B/5 to Capt. (S) 1).

Air raid on Port Said. Between 02300 and 05000/5. No Naval damage. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 12300/5).

Supplies for Tobruk. C. in C. Med. 1245/5. See Mediterranean Volume.

Enemy report. Enemy course 150° speed 8 knots. (Part 2 H/F Duty D. 1250/5 to 19 Group H.Q).

Air raid on Canal. Estimate 5 to 6 Ju. 88 raided Ismailia town from 0235 C to 0430 C/5. No flares used minimum 30 high explosive bombs. One Naval rating killed. No naval or Military damage except minor blast effect to Navy Office. Believe about 270 civilian casualties some houses demolished. Some bombs also towards Menlayaleh district and 2 at Port Fouad without effect. Canal and terminal Port open. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 13030/5).

URGE. Intended patrol. (S.O. (S/M's.) Malta 1313B/5).

UNBEATEN. Leave patrol p.m./7th through 035° 40' 014° 06' to arrive Marsamxett 0700B/9. (S.O. S/M's Malta 1317B/5 to UNBEATEN).

Tobruk. Re maintenance of supplies (C. in C. Med. 15310/5) See Mediterranean Volume.

/Schooner.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Schooner sunk.

4/8. 2 Blenheims sank 800 ton W.T. Schooner off Misurata scoring 3 direct hits. Intended target 1 M/V off Misurata had left.
5/8. 4 Blenheims failed locate 2 M/Vs westbound off West Sicily attacked Italian coastal vessels and trawlers near Cape Bon claiming none sunk. All aircraft returned. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1630/5).

Suez Canal.

2 Mines probably laid in raid 5/8 exploded near Khassab 99. 1st damaged small tug PHOENIX which subsequently sank. 2 exploded spontaneously doing no damage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1917C/5).

Operation Guillotine.

My 1002/26/7 (? 0902 intended) serial 15 postponed 24 hours. (C. in C. Med. 20370/5).

CAPO ARMA.	Italian	Sailed from Istanbul at 1800 G.M.T./2 for Aegean. (D.S. 700).
ALBA JULIA.	Roumanian	
BALCIC.	Roumanian	

Situation report 108.

Canal Area. Air raid canal area night of 4/5th, little naval damage but Port Said closed a.m./5. Port now open and operation 'Guillotine' resumed with some delay. DESMOULEA reported seaworthy for towage to repair port.
2. UNIQUE blew up train on East Sicily line 038° 01' N. at 0325/29 and placed charges on railway south Calabrian Coast 015° 55' E. at 0115/30 result not known. Request no mention.
3. Syria. Convoy Z French ships for repatriation has arrived Beirut. (C. in C. Med., 2351/5 to Admty.)

Landing Craft.

Numbers of landing craft lost in Mediterranean up to 1/8/41. (C. in C. Med., 1655C/5). See Lion Copy.

East Indies.

KANIMBLA. C. in C. E.I. 00282/5. See Operations Volume.

French ships.

My 1230/31 (1700) Para. one. Intercepted French ships may now be sent into any South African Port but preferably not Simonstown. (C. in C. E.I. 0638Z/5 to E.I. Station).

/ANSON.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.-Contd.

ANSON. Departure. E.T.A. Mombasa 0700Z/11. Route same as S.W.8. Speed 13½ knots to position (c) thence 12½ knots. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1322Z/5 to C. in C. E.I.).
C. in C. E.I. 1120Z/4. Ref. Para. 1. Disguise is not now of first importance but should be retained as far as practicable. The name ANSON should be retained. There need be no leave restrictions. Ref. para. 2. C. in C. Med. is requested to make appropriate arrangements consistent with ANSON being able to operate for the purpose for which she was sent out immediately she returns to Suez. Any surplus ratings of leading rate and above in all branches should return to U.K. Ref. para. 3. This will be arranged (A.C.N.S. (F) 2129B/5 to C. in C. Med and E.I.)

China.

LE TRIOMPHANT. Left U.K. 2/8 for Tahiti. Orders in a certain contingency. (V.C.N.S. 0105B/5 to C. in C. China).
See Operations Volume.

COMPIEGNE. Saigon departure 4/8 for Madagascar.
(C.O.S. Singapore 0506Z/5).
My 1006/4 Sailing of COMPIEGNE again postponed owing holding up of DUPLEIX at Batavia Awash.
(Saigon 0847Z/5 to Min. of War. Transport).

Thailand. F.E.W. 42 (C.O.I. S. Far East 0911Z/5).
Indo-China. See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

DIDO. Departure 5/8 due New York 9/8. S. of A. 17½ knots. (N.C.S.O. Trinidad, 0858Q/5 to Admty.)

Neutrals, Bermuda. Portuguese westbound ships GUINE and NYASSA arrived Bermuda 2/8 and 5/8 respectively. Visits appear to have been made on conditions agreed to by British Authorities but no notification received by me except Admty. 1108B/31. As in the case of Spanish east bound ships it would appear that Admiralty is not being kept fully informed by authority concerned. Your 1916B/19/7 and my 1856Q/24/7 refer. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1032Q/5 to Admty.)

CIRCASSIA. Your 1922B/4 as there are about 60 Service personnel for passage and large quantity of procisions purchased for C. in C. S.A. awaiting transport to Freetown suggest CIRCASSIA should sail thither as arranged whatever her subsequent employment. (F.O.C. 3. B.S. 1201P/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

REVENGE. If the situation remains unchanged intend sailing REVENGE for Bermuda on 12/8 and sail for Halifax on 21/8. (R.A.3 1446P/5).

Your 1201/Q/5. Concur. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1532Q/5 to F.O,C.3. B.S.)

Your 1922B/4. Approved to retain CIRCASSIA on America and West Indies Station. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2131B/5 to C. in C. A.W.I).

Items for discussion. With Minister for Naval Services. (Adty. 1406B/5) See Lion Copy.

Service personnel in unescorted ships. Your 1923Z/1 is not understood. Instructions in my 1248B/26/6 are not contrary to those contained in my 1744B/16/7. (4th S.L. 1529B/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

FORT LAMY. (Free French) Master requests new crew French crew insubordinate, ship cannot proceed. (R.O. St. Thomas 1554/5).

/U.S. tugs.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.-Contd.

U.S. tugs for U.K. — Expect 12 tugs will be available at New York during August for despatch to U.K. essential they should be sailed by end of month. Possibly six will have to be towed. Suggest tugs be sailed in S.C. convoys for Iceland (C). Please report your recommendations. (D.T.D. 1556B/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

LE TRIOMPHANT. — Request programme of Free French Destroyer LE TRIOMPHANT en route from U.K. to Tahiti may be signalled for information Navy Dept. (N.A. Washington 1650R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I).

CHITRAL. — Leave Bermuda 1300Q/8 and proceed by direct route to St. John N.B. in accordance with R.A. 3 B.S. 1359P/31. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1813Q/5 to CHITRAL).

RICHMOND. — B.A.R.M. 1240R/4 equipment RICHMOND out of action requires complete rewiring. Request early approval allocation to U.S.A. Yard. Ship can be available at U.S.A. Port about 14/8. (C.C.N.F. 1848/5 to Adty.)

Troop Transport. — Your 1717B/4 Military state despatch of remaining units of 3rd Div. extremely urgent and therefore arranging to embark total of 8000 in 5 ships. Early advice requested from Simonstown for guidance in removing ?necessary cargo from EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and EMPRESS OF ASIA. Also cargo space in these ships and ORBITA from Halifax for U.K. (N.S. H.Q. Ottawa, 2207Z/5 to D. of S.T).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

5.8.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

O.G.69.
HAWKINGE
(torpedoed
27/7).

The only survivors whose fate is not known are from HAWKINGE sunk at 0255/27 position 45.00 N., 17.38 W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0140B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

S.L.81,
CAPE RODNEY,
HARLINGEN,
SWIFTPOOL,
BELGRAVIAN,
KUMASIAN,
torpedoed.

S.L.81 attacked by S/M in 053° 03' N., 016° 00' W. 2 ships not yet identified torpedoed. BLUEBELL standing by. S/M sighted on surface by ZINNIA who attacked and is continuing hunt with CAMPANULA. (WANDERER, 0155B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 0155. SWIFTPOOL sunk, BELGRAVIAN on fire, Salvage unlikely. BLUEBELL picking up survivors. (WANDERER, 0338B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Following received from Lands End Radio 0337 G.M.T. S S S S 52-1/2° N., 16° W. CAPE RODNEY torpedoed 0334/5. 0537/5 Lands End Radio.
(C. in C. Plymouth, T.O.R., 0545/5).
S.L.81 again attacked. Three ships torpedoed. CAPE RODNEY and HARLINGEN still afloat, third ship, not yet identified, sinking. HYDRANGEA and LA MALOUINE standing by. Submarine not seen. Position 053° 26' N., 015° 40' W.
(WANDERER, 0528B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 0528. HARLINGEN and KUMASIAN now sunk. CAPE RODENY holed in No. 2 hold, engines serviceable HYDRANGEA standing by. Requires tugs. (weather.)
(WANDERER, 0736B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Following survivors have been picked up: 59 out of 60 including nine passengers from KUMASIAN in LA MALOUINE. Whole crew of HARLINGEN and 39 from CAPE RODNEY in HYDRANGEA. (corrupt group) from BELGRAVIAN and three from SWIFTPOOL in BLUEBELL. Am sending WALLFLOWER to stand by BELGRAVIAN in place of BLUEBELL whose W/T is out of action.
My 0155B/5 ZINNIA sighted submarine 200 yards ahead and dropped depth charges on it as it dived. No contact obtained. Large area seen to be covered with light oil at daylight. ZINNIA rejoining.
(WANDERER, 0800B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Attempted to ram large U boat attacking S.L.81 at 0200B position 052° 54' N., 015° 53' W., U boat dived at 200 yards range. Six depth charges exploded on and around him. Unknown merchant ship secured hit on conning tower. Daylight showed large area covered in oil. Consider U boat destroyed. Am rejoining convoy (Weather)
(ZINNIA, 0830B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Report names and position of any ships you consider salvable. (C. in C. W.A., 1005B/5 to WANDERER).
Total number survivors on board 82 including complete crews of CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN with exception of second engineer of latter ship.
Captain of CAPE RODNEY and volunteer crew have tried to board ship, impossible owing to heavy swell. Ship still afloat in 053° 11' N., 015°

/23' W., and am....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.L.81, CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN, SWIFTPOOL, BELGRAVIAN, KUMASIAN, torpedoed. Contd.

23' W., and am standing by.
Have only 65 tons oil fuel remaining. Have several cases of Malaria from HARLINGEN on board. Request instructions. (HYDRANGEA, 1037B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Proceed with dispatch in Company with NORTHERN GEM to assist HARLINGEN and CAPE RODNEY torpedoed in 53° 26' N., 15° 40' W. BLUEBELL standing by. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1107B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE.)
My 1107B/5. HARLINGEN now sunk. HYDRANGEA standing by CAPE RODNEY. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1153B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM.)
ST. OLAVES and SUPERMAN are to R/V off Campbeltown at 1830 today and proceed in company with despatch to assist CAPE RODNEY torpedoed (position) HYDRANGES standing by.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1215B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.)
Cancel my 1215B/5 ST. OLAVES is to return to Campbeltown on completion of coaling.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1237B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.)
My 1059. CAPE RODNEY appears to have stopped sinking. Think salvage practicable. Request information regarding expected time of arrival of tugs. Fuel remaining 65 tons.
(HYDRANGEA, 1434B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1005B/5. Only ship now afloat CAPE RODNEY in 053° 11' N., 015° 23' W. Ship is settling in increasing sea. Salvage now appears very doubtful HYDRANGEA standing by has been told to keep you informed. P.C. and S. of convoy at noon 053° 18' N. 014° 30' W., 045° 7 knots. Wind N.W. force 7 sea 55. Making good course direct for South Sand Bluff position. Escort generally short of fuel.
(WANDERER, 1447B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
279. Expect air escort all night. Two aircraft have been instructed to drop flares intermittently round the convoy at a minimum distance of four miles between the hours of 0030 and 0530. (C. in C. W.A., 1530B/5 to WANDERER.)
SUPERMAN and ST. OLAVES are to R/V off Campbeltown at 1830 today and proceed in company with despatch to assist BELGRAVIAN torpedoed in 53° 03' N., 16° 00' W., at 0155B/5. WALLFLOWER standing by. BELGRAVIAN has been on fire.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1553B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.)
Reference HYDRANGEA's 1037B/5. Most desirable HYDRANGEA should stand by CAPE RODNEY if condition of casualties permits but if necessary detail another corvette to relieve HYDRANGEA forthwith and to stand by CAPE RODNEY until tug arrives and escort into harbour. There is every evidence that weather will moderate. (C. in C. W.A., 1605B/5 to WANDERER.)
ST. OLAVES sailed. (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1650/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

/Amend.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

S.L.81, CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN, SWIFTPOOL, BELGRAVIAN, KUMASIAN, torpedoed. Contd.

Amend position of CAPE RODNEY to 53° 11' N., 15° 23' W., at 1037B/5. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1709B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM).
SUPERMAN sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 1805B/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Your 1434B/5. E.T.A. Tug daylight /7.
(C. in C. W.A., 1858B/5 to HYDRANGEA).
Have succeeded in boarding CAPE RODNEY Capt. considers it is doubtful whether No. 1 bulkhead will hold. Observed position at 1800 052° 44' N., 015° 17' W. drifting S.E. ½ knot. Endurance will permit me to remain in vicinity 0800/7.
Casualties not serious. (Weather).
(HYDRANGEA, 1945B/5).

? Following has been read:- S S S S 31° N., 26° W., ACE SIDNEY torpedoed.
(Ascension Radio via Freetown, 0334/5) W.R.
Note:-Message incompletely received.

ERNLACE. My 1817/2/7. Spanish newspapers report ERNLACE was torpedoed and sunk by British submarine (?July 1st). Confirmed from Greek Legation.
(N.A. Madrid, 1757/5).

Submarines Reported.

0029. BBB Am over enemy S/M in position 53.02N., 16.19 W. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C duty U, 0029/5 to 15 R Group H.Q.)

0441B. S/M disguised as sailing ketch sighted dawn position 061° 58' N., 014° (52?) W., course 105°.
(APOLLO, 0441B/5 to Admty).
Am over enemy submarine in 53.25N., 15.14 W.
(A/C 102 Sq. Duty "L" 1420/5 to 15 Group H.Q.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1421B/5).

1050C. U boat reported in 70° (?30') N., 33° 10' E., course 25° at 1050C/5. Admiralty pass to TRIDENT.
(B.S.N.O., Murmansk, 1540C/5 to TRIDENT).

1535 G.M.T. By D/F in 52° 45' N., 15° W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C., 1820B/5).

/2011 G.M.T.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

2011 G.M.T. Italian Submarine 96 West bearing 263/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 2302B/5).

2013 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 96W. (D.D.I.C., 2242B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

By ZINNIA. Escorting S.L. 81 53.03 N., 16° W. after attack on that convoy. (WANDERER, 0800B /5, etc). See also Ships Attacked.
Full pattern on U-boat as it dived at 0201.
Probably killed, 0200/5 in 53° 2' N., 15° 58' W., U-boat crossed front convoy close ahead of DEIDO and under stern of VOLTURNO nearly rammed by DEIDO and hit by gunfire from VOLTURNO. (WANDERER, 1634B/5).

Am over enemy S/M in 53.24 N., 15.02 W. (A/C 35 Sq. duty P., 0950/5, to 15 Group H.Q.)
Whitley A/C (D.S.700).
Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, when first sighted was on course 045°. Have attacked with depth charges. (A/C 36 Sqn. duty, P. 1000/5 to 15 Group H.Q.)

By A/C Am over enemy submarine in 47.05 N., 09.00 W. (Part 2 H/F Duty D. 1230/5 T.O.R., 1248. to 19 Group H.Q.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. (Part 2 H.F. A/C Duty D. 1300/5 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Wellington A/C, D/221. (D.S. 701 6/8).

Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C Part 1 Duty D. 1315/5).

Circling large oil patch. (A/C duty D, 1320/5).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Marine Casualties.

Minesweeper MARJORIE M. HASTIE grounded and capsized in the entrance to the Hartlepool Harbour today. The port is closed pending salvage operations.

A/S Trawler AGATE and six ships of convoy F.S.59 grounded on the Haisboro Sand about 0230 today in heavy weather and it is reported they will all be total loss. A seventh ship was abandoned and is missing and is believed to have foundered.

Dover Shelled.

Gris Nez Battery fired 5 rounds between 1528 and 1725 today. Casualties and superficial damage were caused at Dover.

Task Force 16.

Task Force 16 arrived at Iceland this morning.

Invasion notice.

It is considered that owing to the continued engagement of the enemy on the Russian front one month's notice of impending invasion can be given.

British Air Operations.

Two Fortress aircraft attempted unsuccessfully to bomb the enemy naval units in Brest today. Shipping was attacked by Blenheims off the Dutch coast, who claim to have hit a vessel in convoy off the Texel.

Fighter Command aircraft attacked two tankers today near Cherbourg and appear to have set one of them on fire.

A Beaufort of Coastal Command claims two hits on a merchant vessel (reported to be of over 10,000 tons) at Nantes last night.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft crossed Scapa Flow this evening and would have seen into the Flow.

Convoy E.C. 56 was unsuccessfully bombed off Flamborough Head at 2311 and Convoy F.S. 60 at 2336 off Cromer.

South Atlantic.

An area at 6° 19' N., 3° 20' E. (off Lagos) is dangerous on account of mines.

Mediterranean.

Malta. Slight damage was caused in the dockyard by air attack last night.

Swordfish attack on Augusta. 5 Swordfish attacked Augusta submarine base last night with success. Photographs taken today show that 4 S/Ms 1 small merchant vessel and 24 seaplanes were sunk.

CACHALOT lost. CACHALOT is now 2 days overdue and must be considered lost (see 4/8).

Operations by O.21. Netherlands S/M O.21 reports having sunk a 4,000 ton enemy merchant vessel in an escorted convoy on 29/7 in 39° 51' N., 13° 46' E., and having badly damaged by gunfire on 3/8 a suspected A/S schooner in 38° 46' N., 9° 24' E.

Constanza. It is reported that although the town of Constanza has been badly damaged by Russian air attacks no hits have been obtained in the port area.

/Libya.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Libya & Western Desert.

Wellingtons last night bombed Benghazi and Derna Port.

Our surface forces and S/Ms have been operating with air co-operation, to intercept supply ships to enemy forward bases in Cyrenaica. No movements were seen by air R/C however. Captain D.2 called for help against enemy aircraft at 0606 in 31° 43' N., 26° 15' E. REGENT bombarded Apollonia at dusk.

Tobruk town and harbour area were intermittently shelled and bombed last night. No damage is reported. Mersa Matruh was bombed last night, but no damage or casualties were caused.

America & West Indies.

Japanese shipping.

It is reported from San Francisco that all Japanese schedules for U.S.A. are cancelled, Japanese merchant ships are painting out their flag.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Soviet Union 500 ton auxiliary vessel was torpedoed by a U-Boat at 2000C today in 69° 15' N., 35° E.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6. 8. 41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M/V's.

My 1159/5. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/6 as follows.
(N.A. Stockholm 1019/6.)

S/M's Working-up Period.

B.A.R.M. 1242R/4. Experience shows such working up periods essential. Return of these submarines to their operational flotillas would be delayed if they proceed to St. John's N.F., for this and it is for consideration that working up practices should be carried out from an American Base.
(F.O.S. 1716B/6.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Task Force 16. Arrived 1100Z. (A.C.I.C. 1616/6.)

Co-operation with Russia.

White Sea and Murmansk.

Present anti-Mining organisation.
(Ad. Miles 1006/6.) See Mining.

Archangel. Proposed British Naval Attache.

My 1639C./4.Request for the establishment of a Consul at Archangel was turned down. It would appear essential to have somebody there capable of dealing with cargoes awaiting shipment and other shipping agent business. It is for consideration whether a suitable R.N.R. or R.N.V.R., Officer with the requisite experience to perform all these duties might be sent there and given sufficient diplomatic status if he were appointed as an assistant Naval Attache.
(Admiral Miles 1458C/6.)

Defence of U.K.

Notice of Invasion.

My 1135B/1/6. It is considered that the continued engagement of the enemy on the Russian front now renders impossible an attempted invasion of U.K. in early September. Anti-Invasion preparations should continue to be pressed forward but, in order to enable refitting programmes etc., to be continued and planned, it may be assumed that under present conditions one month's notice of impending invasion can be given.
(V.C.N.S. 1355B/6.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TIGRIS. — S.N.O. Murmansk reports TIGRIS arrived 1543c/4.
(D.C. 0142B/6.)

CANTON. — Arrived with 110 German prisoners of War.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0906B/6.)
CANTON will be ready to sail from Clyde to Southampton at 0900B/7. Request you will provide escort from limit of your command as you consider necessary.
(C. in C. W.A. 1215B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Your 1215B/6. Regret no escort available.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1308/6.)

P.31. CURACOA. — F.O.C. D.F. H.F's 1716B/5. CURACOA is to escort S/M P 31 to Scapa.
(A.C.O.S. 1051B/6.)

A.F.D. IV. — A.M. 1928B/22. A.F.D. will be swept up Q.Z.S. 259 into Clyde by S.A. and L.L. vessels. No Oropesa Sweepers are available in Clyde.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1614B/6.)
Your 1320/4 and 1542/5. Proposed arrangements for sweeping ahead of Dock should be co-ordinated between Milford Haven, Liverpool, and Greenock in the following manner.
(C. in C. W.A. 1920B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

TASK Force 16. — Arrived 1100Z.
(A.C.I.C. 1616/6.)

PORPOISE. — (Shipment of Bombs to Malta.) Your 2130B/5 para., two. Proposals.
(F.O.S. 1639B/6.)
Your 2130B/5 para. one. Yes.
(F.O.S. 1641B/6 to Adty.)

PENELOPE. — A.M. 1852/24/6 and your 1150/2/8.
WESTMINSTER will be available as S.A. escort leaving Tyne Pier Heads at 1330/9/8 for Rosyth. Owing to shortage of escorts C. in C. Nore is requested to provide the second S.A. escort.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1757/6 to F.O.I.C. Tyne.)

/BIARRITZ.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

BIARRITZ.

BIARRITZ is required to Transport 180 U.S. technicians from Londonderry to the Gareloch to arrive by 8 or 9/8.
2. Request necessary escort arrangements.
(D.O.D.H. 1958B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)
(D. of S.T. 2109B/6.)

Operations.

Operation GRAB.

Paras. 3 and 7. For two read four.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0743B/6.)
GRAB patrol out 1100/6.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0837B/6.)
My 0837. Weather at present unsuitable for operation.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1203B/6.)
GRAB patrol withdraws 1600/6.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1527B/6.)

Exercise LEAPFROG.

My 1923B/5. For 1st. M.S.F. read 6th M.S.F.
(D. of P. 1159Z/6 to C. in C. H.F. and A.C.O.S.)
Admiralty's 1923B/5. No ships of 1st M/S Flotilla are at Scapa or under my orders at present. HARRIER, HALCYON, and SALAMANDER are at present at Seidis Fiord.
(C. in C. H.F. 1541B/6.)

SEALION.

On completion of operation FOLLOW proceed submerged by day through 46° N., 5° W., to patrol in Biscay South zone. S.B.R. arranged as follows.
(F.O.S. 1714B/6 to SEALION.)

Dover shelled.

Gris Nez battery fired five rounds between 1528 and 1725 today. One fell in S/M basin, two in Dockyard, one in the town, and one inland. Four Royal Marine engineers, one soldier, and two civilians wounded. Damage superficial only.
(V.A. Dover 2014B/6.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Kirkenes and Petsamo losses.

We are receiving increasing evidence of the great effect on the morale and dispositions of the enemy of the very gallant and dashing attacks carried out by the Fleet Air Arm in the Kirkenes and Petsamo area.
The heavy losses in aircraft crews are deeply regretted, but our Allies asked for immediate assistance, and Naval aircraft were the sole means of affording immediate help. Request you will promulgate as and when you consider necessary.
(1st. Lord 0108B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)
Reports from Finnish sources indicate that there are probably about 15 prisoners from aircraft crews engaged in attacks in Northern Area. Request you will promulgate as and when you think necessary.
(1st. Lord 0109B/6 to C. S. 1.)

Patrols.

Patrol of Orkneys Exercise area now being flown and will continue till 0600.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0110/6.)
Patrols TROST, STAB being flown to reach Norwegian Coast at 1000/6.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0922/6.)
BERT has now taken off.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1128/6.)
P.R.U. of Bergen - Oslo - STAVANGER now being flown.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1714/5.)
Six beauforts to carry out Rover Patrol during the hours of darkness 6/7. First three with bombs to attack and report any shipping seen. Second three with torpedoes to intercept enemy, report, and attack any suitable vessel of 2000 tons or over. Area of Patrol Norwegian Coast between Naze and Jaederens Point.
(Pitreavie A.C.H.Q., 1815/6 to Leuchars.)

Bombing Restrictions.

Request extension of bombing restrictions Clyde Sanctuary from 2000B/6 to 0800B/8 and from 2000B/10 to 0800B/11.
(Capt. S.7. 1021B/5.)

Iceland /U.K.Service.

An air service between Iceland and U.K., has commenced, using a low winged 4 engined Albatross Monoplane, which closely resembles a Focke Wulf. Service leaves Iceland A.M. every Wednesday and U.K., p.m. every Monday, weather permitting.
(C. in C. H.F. 1112B/6 to N.P. Trawlers, etc.)

4 M/V's.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

4 M/V's sunk Boulogne, and Calais bombed.

On day 5/8 A/C attacked one M/V off the Hook. Two direct hits observed and ship claimed as destroyed. 3 aircraft attacked a convoy nine miles north of the Hook. Some near misses were noted. Eight Blenheims attacked 3 reporting vessels 57 miles north of Borkum, and all three are claimed as destroyed. On night 5/6 Boulogne and Calais were bombed.
(H.Q.B.C. 1736/6.)

A/C for ARGUS.

It is necessary to decide which type of Naval fighters if any should be carried by ARGUS.
Various considerations.
Request your very early remarks.
(A.C.N.S.H. 2005B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

TUNISIA. (Bombed 4/8.)

TUNISIA bombed and abandoned. Keep good look out for survivors.
(C. in C. W.A. 1125B/6 to Escort of O.S.2.)
On leaving convoy sweep along 53° N., to 13° W., thence to base. TUNISIA sunk at 1400B/4. Look for survivors particularly east of 19° W.
(C. in C. W.A., 1709B/6 to GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE, PIORUN, ISAAC SWEERS.)

German Air R/C's of Iceland.

Your 1256B/30th July and 1153 B/5. Request precise details of these and future R/C's be communicated and particularly if Seidis Fiord was covered.
(C. in C. H.F., 1219B/6 to Admty.)
Your 1219B/6. On 30/7 A/C engine heard North and North East Iceland between 0255Z and 0345Z. Nothing seen and no report Reykjavik area nor Seidis Fiord. At 0415Z/5 one H E 111 circled Borganes, thence over Akranes Gardar returning to Kaldadarnes Eyrarbakki. Last heard over Vestmann Island 0511Z. All positions S.W. corner Iceland. No report from Seidis Fiord.
(A.C.I.C. 2216/6 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 1219B/6. R/C of Iceland on 30/7 known to have covered Reykjavik and Faxa Fiord area in particular but observations covered practically the whole country. On 5/8 details of flight obscure but activity appears to have been confined to South Coast. No definite indication that Seidis Fiord was covered on either day. Precise details of future R/C flights to Iceland will be sent when these are available.
(D.D.I.C. 2145B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

CAROLINA THORDEN. (Bombed 31/3.)

CAROLINA THORDEN towed by THAMES and escorted by LORD AUSTIN and STOKE CITY should be sailed for Kirkwall as soon after arrival of LORD AUSTIN as weather permits.
(A.C.O.S. 1645B/6 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

A/C over Scapa.

At 1825/6 Junkers 88 was seen to fly from South to North over Hoy at height of 15,000 feet and would have seen into Flow. Four fighters in the air were ordered to intercept but failed to make contact. No R.D.F. plots received until E/A was 60 miles East of Orkney course East at 10,000 feet.
(A.C.O.S. 2033/6.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity Contd.

Convoy E.C.56. Enemy is bombing Convoy USAGE in 350° Flamborough Head 4 miles.
(WESTMINSTER 2311/6.)
2 bombs no hits.
(WESTMINSTER 2318/6.)

Convoy F.S.60. Convoy F S is being bombed in 53° 8' N., 1° 11' E.
(QUANTOCK 2336/6.)
4 bombs no hits.
(QUANTOCK 2342/6.)
Fighter protection is being sent.
(Nore W/T 2353/6.)

Mining.

White Sea and Murmansk Areas. Your 1232B/29/7.
Details of anti-mining organisation in Archangel and White Sea area at present. Understand similar arrangements in Murmansk area.
(Admiral Miles 1006/6 to Adty.)

Thames Estuary. At 2340/5 hostile plane being chased by night Fighter dropped mine or bomb which exploded approx., at East Barrow Beacon.
(S.O. T.L.D.F. 1708/6.)

ACHATES (Mined 25/7.) ANTELOPE is to escort ACHATES in tow of ASSURANCE as ordered by F.O.C.D.F./H.F.
(C. in C. H.F. 2017B/6.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest. R/C At 0820/6.
(P.R.U. St. Eval 1150/6.)
(D.D.I.C. 1440 B/6.)

Kiel. At 1730/6. Photographic R/C shows TIRPITZ berthed at entrance to inner dockyard basin, and LUTZOW and HIPPER in dry dock.
(D.D.I.C. 2255B/6.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.41.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

MARJORIE M. HASTIE (M/S Trawler) grounded. Hartlepool closed.	Grounded this morning in entrance to Hartlepool Harbour, capsized, forming serious obstruction in Channel. Port closed to shipping. (Smith, W.Hartlepool 0643/6.) (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0930/6 and 1722/6.)
WARWICK CASTLE. WINDSOR CASTLE.	In Convoy W.S.10, have been in collision. WARWICK CASTLE is proceeding to Halifax under escort at 10 knots. WINDSOR CASTLE is proceeding with Convoy at 13 knots. (D.O.R., 7/8.)
FRODE.	Arrival H.M. Tug MARAUDER towing S.S.FRODE. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2005/6.)
BRECONSHIRE.	Admiralty's 1254/30. BRECONSHIRE has produced a defect list of 161 items, including docking. No dock is available on the Clyde nor is it feasible to undertake a refit on this magnitude at the present time. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1018B/6.)
FOXHOUND.	Your 2340/3/7. It will not be possible to take this ship in hand at Rosyth. (A.S. Rosyth 1748/6 to Adty.)
Convoy F.S.59. AGATE. (A/S Trawler) DEERWOOD (British, 1914 Tons.) OXSHOTT. (British, 1241 Tons.) GALLOIS (British, 2684 Tons.) ABERHILL (British, 1516 Tons.) TAARA (British, 1402 Tons.) BETTY HINDLEY and AFON TOWY (British, 684 Tons grounded.	Following ships of F.S.59 grounded on the Haisboro Sand between N. Middle and Middle Haisboro buoys at about 0230 today: AGATE, S.S. DEERWOOD, OXSHOTT, GALLOIS, ABERHILL, TAARA, BETTY HINDLEY. As far as can at present be ascertained all these ships are a total loss with the possible exception of BETTY HINDLEY. Attempt is being made to salve her tomorrow. AFON TOWY also unaccounted for at present and is believed to have foundered. Various survivors have been landed at Harwich and Yarmouth and possibly at Cromer or Gorleston by lifeboats. C. in C. Nore 2324B/6. See also. Humber Radio 0228B/6. Nore W/T 0307/6. C. in C. Nore 0449B/6, 0553B/6, 0917B/6, 1415B/6,1810B/6, 2300B/6, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0545B/6,0718B/6 0728B/6, VIMIERA 0603B/6, 0642-B/6, 0803B/6 0838B/6, 1036B/6, 1347B/6. F.O. Humber 0822B/6. Request you convene Board of Inquiry into loss of AGATE. (C. in C. Nore 2340B/6 to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.8.C. — Intend sailing convoy for Scapa escorted by BULLDOG, INTREPID, ECHO, CHARLESTON, CASTLETON, first ship passing Clyde boom at 0500B/8 to R/V with WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH in position 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1800B/8 thence in accordance with N.O.i/c Greenock 1440B/4. E.T.A., Hoxa boom 0130B/10 codeword EAGER. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1134B/6 to Admty.)

Convoys. — Situation at 2000/6. O.N.1, O.N.3, W.S.10, H.X.142, S.C.39. (C. in C. W.A., 1430B/6.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.X. — Personnel and stores for Near East. List, dates, escorts. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1816B/6 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F., etc.) See Lion Copy.

CITY OF LANCASTER. — A.M. 2031B/1. Not now required to proceed to Scapa. Ship is required at the Tail of the Bank to embark about 50 tons military stores and then to proceed to Inverary. (D.O.D.(H) 1857B/6 to C. in C. W.A., etc.

EMPRESS OF CANADA. — A.M.1323B/5. Will not now proceed to Scapa. C. in C. W.A., is requested to arrange for ship to be sailed for Inverary on 7/8. (D.O.D.(H) 1858B/6 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F., etc.)

MOST SECRET.

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General.

Enemy M/V's Prevention of Scuttling. Request your observations on A message No.36 (1943/1/5) in light of experience on your station. (Head of M. 1007B/6 to C's in C.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.21 and enemy M/V's. Netherlands Sub.O.21 reports sinking 4,000 ton enemy M/V on 29/7 in 039° 51' 013° 46'. Ship was one of 5 in convoy escorted by 2 destroyers apparently bound Naples. Suspect A/S schooner badly damaged by gunfire in 3/8 in 038° 46' 009° 24'. (F.O.C.N.A. 1040B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

French Ships, Gibraltar. Passed 5/8 eastward ST.CYRILLE, ST.MONIQUE, both full. (F.O.C.N.A. 1127B/6 to Admty. for M.E.W.)
French convoys passing Gibraltar 2/8 and 4/8. (D.O.R. 6/8.)

A/C force - landed in Morocco. My 1745/5. Ministry (?in doubt) as regards date of incident which took place some days ago, and protest has already been received. (N.A. Madrid, 1157/6 to Admty.)

Teneriffe defences. My 2015/5. Reported no defence between Garachico and Buenavisto. 4 guns 15.5 cm. are at Medano. 2 large mobile guns at Cristianos. -(Teneriffe 1255/6 to Admty.)

Funchal. Your 1209B/5, there are ample supplies of water Funchal. (N.C.S.O. Funchal, 1502/6 to Admty.)

Ponta del Gada. Your 1209B/5. Water facilities limited to supply by lighters from outside port and can be obtained only in fine weather. Provided ship can receive through four or five hoses 40 tons per hour can be pumped in. In order to guarantee supply 48 hours notice of arrival is necessary. (N.C.S.O. Ponta del Gada, 1555/6 to Admty.)

CAVINA. S.O. Western Patrol 0940B/1. After position X proceed through 030° 30' N. 015° 00' W. thence Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632B/6 to CAVINA.)

/St. Vincent .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.3.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

St. Vincent defences. — Your 1915B/29. Further to my 1801/31. Details. (Consul, St. Vincent, 1711/6, to Admty.)

Bilbao Ore Traffic. — Traffic of small vessels with iron ore of specially valuable quality from Bilbao to Bayonne is now formidable. 4 French, 8 Dutch (under German Flag) and 2 larger German Steamers engaged. Please see memo. to you by Consul Bilbao dated 1/8 and reports to Director of Foreign Ores, Ministry of Supply, by Loxley, Bilbao, dated 28/7 and 4/8. From these it should be possible to devise plan of interference with traffic. (N.A. Madrid, 1835/6 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

O.S. and S.L. Convoys. — Your 1405/4/4 is noted. West coast ships -arriving in O.B.346 that were available (6 ships) sailed in convoy for neighbourhood of Takoradi. Intention was to continue this when possible. Considered that position in which such convoys, including ships for the Cape, should be dispersed should be left to C. in C. S.A. to decide. Re penultimate sentence of signal, all escorting forces returning to Freetown are utilised to protect shipping proceeding there. (C. in C.S.A. 0127N/6 to Admty. amended 0247N/6, 1049N/6) Concur (D.T.D.1737B/8.)

W.S.10 X. — Your 2015/3. Regret all accommodation in W.S.10 X will be required for personnel from U.K. (D.S.T.0523B/6 to C. in C.S.A.)

ORION. — Sails from St. Helena p.m./7 average S. of A. 16 knots. E.T.A. at Trinidad 1400 G.M.T./17. (ORION, 0941Z/6 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

MAUD. — Overdue shipping (Nor) MAUD due Cape Town 2/8 from Calcutta not arrived. (S.O.I. Cape Town, 0947B/6 to Admty.)

NEWCASTLE. — Your 1727/19. Intend NEWCASTLE shall call Freetown and fuel there on passage to Boston as proposed to bring correspondence and enable C.S.O. to discuss S.A.D. Affairs. (C. in C.S.A. 1301N/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)
Wearing flag of R.A.S.A.D. arrived Buenos Aires 1800 G.M.T./5 and leaves on patrol 1800 G.M.T./7. (R.A.S.A.D. 1341Z/6 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

/YAMAKAZE .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

YAMAKAZE MARU, TOKAI MARU.	Japanese YAMAKAZE MARU in 38° 10' S. 56° 30' W. steering approx. 200° at 1200Z/4. TOKAI MARU left Rio de Janeiro 4/8 for Yokohama. Due 1/9. (S.O.I. Freetown 1644N/6 to Admty.)
CARNARVON CASTLE.	Your 2149/5 approved. (C. in C.S.A. 1654N/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)
QUEEN OF BERMUDA.	Your 0916/5. (N.T. in W.R.) Owing to escort arrangements required by Admiralty unlikely that QUEEN OF BERMUDA will now arrive Newport News until about 18/9. (C. in C.S.A. 1809N/6 to B.A.R.M.)
LUMINARY.	Boom Trawler, allocated to Ceylon, ready to sail shortly from Simonstown. Endurance 1,500 miles. Please request Ambassador to approach Portuguese Authorities requesting permission for LUMINARY to call Beira for fuel. (Head of M. 1824B/6 to N.A. Lisbon.)
Vichy Ships.	Policy if interception is interfered with. (C. in C.S.A. 1841N/6 to S.A. Stn.) See Lion Copy.
MATHILDA THORDEN.	Rio de Janeiro reports MATHILDA THORDEN Panama ex Finnish sailed from there late last night 5/8 for Baltimore direct. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1928Z/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)
O.G.70.	Your 1723B/4/8 and 1946B/30/7, request present positions and route of ships from O.G.70 entering S.A. Station. (C. in C.S.A. 2020N/6 to Admty.)
Japanese Shipping.	A.2 Representative of Japanese S.S. lines at Montevideo has asked Port Administration for tug to go out to meet Japanese ASUKA MARU when she arrives in Montevideo Roads. Tug is to take out Chilean pilot who will fly over from Buenos Aires and will presumably be pilot for Magellan Straits. Ship left Baltimore 12/7, believed to be for Colon but did not arrive there. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2143Z/6 to S.O.I. Freetown.)
HOLMSIDE, NIKOKUS, RIVER AFTON.	Your 1236B/19. HOLMSIDE and NIKOKUS overdue. RIVER AFTON received diversion signal but took no action as ship had passed position. (C. in C.S.A. 2145N/6 to Admty.)

/ADVANCE .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ADVANCE. (Finnish.) — Spartivento reports following telegram received by Captain Finnish ship (?ADVANCE) from owners (begins). Following in accordance with "Brazil 495 S" instructions to proceed within territorial waters (ends). Captain reports speed 7 knots, bunkers on board for 30 days. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2257Z/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

Air Attack D.2. — Help - 31° 43' N. 26° 15' E. (Capt. D.2. 0606/6 to Alexandria W/T.)

Russia and Turkey. — 30 M.M. Moscow to W.O. 0810/6. See Lion Copy.

Suez Canal Raid. — Raid on Suez Canal Zone night 4/5 made by about 30 A/C. Some bombs dropped on Kantara, Port Said, in Delta, and near Cairo, but main effort directed against Ismailia which was attacked by between 15 and 20 A/C. About 100 civilians 4 Service personnel killed, 130 Civilians,15 Service personnel wounded. No damage to Service -property. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1011/6 to Air Min.)

Benghazi, Derna, Bardia bombed. — Night 4/5, 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi, 4 Wellingtons bombed Derna, 1 Wellington bombed Timimi, 4 Marylands bombed M.T. Depot at Derna, 3 Marylands bombed Gazala South landing ground, 6 Blenheims and 6 F.A.A. Albacores bombed M.T. workshops and gun repair Depot at Bardia. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1012/6.)

CACHALOT sunk. — Regret to report CACHALOT must be considered lost, being now 48 hours overdue and having been claimed as sunk by name in Italian broadcast a.m./5. Broadcast also stated 91 prisoners taken. It is believed there were 71 on board including passengers. Italian report stated CACHALOT was rammed by E-boat which seems unlikely. Likelihood of compromise of S.P.s cannot be assessed. (Capt. S.1 10470/6, C. in C. Med. 10540/6.)

/Suez .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raids. My 1259C/4. Ref. C.A.F.O. (Corrupt Group). First Raid on Suez. (a) 4/8 calm cloudless. (b) 4 to 6 bombers, parachute flares, bright moon. (c) H.E. bombs and torpedoes. (d) 12 bombs, about 3 torpedoes and 1 suspected U.X.21. (e) No naval casualties. ESCAUT sunk. DESMOULEA damaged by torpedo*/50 miles South of Suez. Second raid on Port Said. (a) 4/8 calm clear. (b) High level 5 bombers, 2 flares, bright moonlight. (c) H.E. bombs. (d) 8 500 kilo bombs and one suspected U.X.21 in canal at kilos 4.5. (e) No naval damage or casualties. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1131C/6 to Admty., C. in C. Med.) */ALEXANDRE ANDRE reported torpedoed.

O.23 patrol. Consider you should spend 2 days in vicinity of 038° 16' 012° 10' Northbound convoys Approach from (?Marittimo) and steer from this point 075° and 032° to Messina and Naples respectively. This after spending one day off Cape St. Vito and off approaches to Palermo. Propose you then follow coastal route towards Messina. Enemy air patrols North of Messina are constant. From close to northward of Straits of Messina proceed 331° to position 5 miles East of Strombol: then 000° to Cape Palinuro, thence operate in approaches to Naples. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1157B/6 to O.23.)

MAYA ALBARO. Italian tankers imminently expected transit Bosphorus laden for Aegean. (N.A. Istanbul 1225C/6 to S.O.I. Med.)

Attack on Vichy ships off Turkey ISTIKBAL. My 2352/25 (see Mediterranean Volume.) Ship attacked by R.A.F. A/C was Turkish S.S. ISTIKBAL, thought to be ADOUR. Attack started outside territorial waters, but understood that Turks are likely to make a protest. N.A. Angora states: Ship sailed without giving us due warning though Turkish Authorities had been asked and agreed to report all movements to avoid just such incidents. (C. in C. Med. 1256/6 to Admty.)

Constanza Ploesti. Following from Adm Kelly. A friend in daily telephone communication with Roumania states town of Constanza badly damaged by air attack but no hits on port area. In Ploesti one refinery and depot were destroyed by air raids but output is not materially affected. (N.A. Angora 1325C/6 to Admty.)

/Turkey .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Turkey and Vichy Ships.	-Your 1130/30 to N.A. Angora. In view of Turkish attitude reported in Ambassador's telegram No. 1875 repeated to Cairo No.631, it appears improbable that anything will be gained by pressing our objections to removal of all the ships. H.M. Ambassador is however, being instructed to state our objections and to press for retention of the Tanker ADOUR and Sloop ELAN at Iskanderun. Remaining ships appear comparatively unimportant and such a compromise whilst partly meeting the Turkish point of view would give us little practical cause for complaint. Request you communicate your views on this suggestion to N.A. Angora. (1st Lord. 1350B/6 to C. in C. Med.)
Turkey.	Staff conversations. Chiefs of Staff No. 154. (1st S.L. 1420B/6 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.
Enemy Units.	Six Destroyers, six Merchant Ships in position 210° Pantellaria 17 miles course 170° 15 (knots?) at 1335B. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1436B/6 to UNBEATEN.)
Personnel for U.K.	My 2111C/19/6 and your 2254/21/6. Number of passages available since June has not kept pace with number of ratings available for draft to U.K. Available accommodation at Alexandria cannot compete with situation. Request arrangements be made for an escorted passage from Egypt, ?20/8 or alternatively if C. in C.E.I. concurs that draft awaiting passage be sent as far as Durban un-escorted. (C. in C. Med. 1456/6 to Admty. addressed amplified 1027/8.)
D.14.	No news yet. At 1600 steer eastwards about 15 knots. Return to be off ? Mersa Matruh at 2000. (C. in C. Med. 1528C/6 to Capt. D.14.) If no further orders are received by 2000/6 carry out an A/S sweep to Westward along Western Desert route turning back to pass Mersa Matruh daylight/7 and return to Alexandria. TORBAY is operating (?8th) off Ras El Melh North of 031° 52' and will proceed to Westwards at 2100/6 if (?nothing) further (?occurs.) (C. in C. Med. 1818C/6 to Capt. D.14.)

/Malta .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Raid. Night 5/6 10 raiders. Hurricane shot down 3 confirmed 2 in flames only 1 identified Fiat BE. 202. Bombs in fields and dockyard slight damage dockyard, no casualties.
R/C Augusta, 24 seaplanes, 4 Subs., 1 small M.V. sunk and quay (?)splintered as result of Swordfish attack (see below.) Considerable amount of oil around submarine base.

Swordfish attack on Augusta 5/8. Part 111. 2 Blenheims despatched p.m.5/8 to attack shipping Benghazi-Tripoli, nothing seen, aircraft attacked barracks Misurata direct hits, much debris thrown high and considerable damage inflicted no opposition, both aircraft returned. Night 5/6, 5 Swordfish excellent attack Augusta submarine base from 2,000 feet, 10 direct hits 500 lb. bombs, several fires, 1 particularly big fire on submarine jetty with heavy black smoke still burning when seen Fulmars 1 hour later, photos taken today reported above, all aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. Malta, 1600/6.)

PORPOISE. Anticipate will be ready to sail for Med. about 1/9. Ref. A L D O 9560/41 of 5/7/41 request information regarding date it is anticipated RORQUAL can arrive U.K. for refit. (F.O.S. 1754B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Suez Canal Raid 5/8. My 1303/5 C.A.F.O. 587. (A) 5/8, calm, cloudless (B) main objective Ismailia, dive bombed about 6 JU 88, no illumination, bright moon. (C) H/E bombs. (D) About 30 impact bombs. (E) Minor blast damage to Navy Office and 1 rating killed. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1831C/6 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

TAKU. Your 1427/2 not to Capt. S.7. Approved. TAKU should be sailed for Rothesay. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1856B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Turkey oil supplies. From Admiral Kelly. Walker co-ordinator of all oil supplies to Turkey has contracted to supply complete with two cargoes monthly each 6,000 tons oil products from Abadan to Iskenderun. 1st ship left Abadan 18/7. Hoped Admiralty will facilitate application for tankers for this service. (N.A. Angora, 1857C/6 to Admty.)

Suez Canal. My 1917/5. Mines laid 16/7 outside Channel at Kilo 99 exploded spontaneously today. Situation otherwise unchanged. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area 1919C/6.)

/Supplies .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Supplies for Tobruk. Your 1245/5. (a) and (c) see Admty.1859/6. (b) PRINCE BADOUIN will carry approx. 150 tons cargo and this is being increased to approx. 300 tons by stowage between decks at expense of accommodation. Your 1114/6/7 A. as above. B. and C. This is being arranged. Your requirements will be borne in mind in further ships converted. Can you accept ship flying Red Ensign ? If so she could be sailed from U.K. approx. one month earlier than if White Ensign. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2137B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Situation Report 109. Western Desert. Air and surface and submarine force operating to intercept supply ships to enemy forward bases in Cyrenaica but air R/C has revealed no movements.
(ii) "Guillotine". HOBART returned Alexandria. NEPTUNE, ABDIEL and a destroyer left Port Said for Famagusta p.m./6 then to (?Haifa). (C. in C. Med. 2152C/6 to Admty.)

MAURO CROCE. (Italian) Arrival 6/8. (Barcelona, 2200/6 to D. of S.T.)

East Indies.

ALEXANDRE ANDRE. (A/C attack) Reported position off Daedalus a.m./6 (?severely) damaged by torpedo and probably unseaworthy in heavy weather. Proceeding Port Sudan 9 knots weather favourable. S.B.N.O. Suez's 1259/4 refers. (C. in C.E.I. 0940Z/6 to Admty.)

Indian Ocean anchorages. Admty. 1157/15/7. Details. (F.O.C.R.I.N.1050Z/6 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

S.W.3. (2) 1130Z/6 DUCHESS OF BEDFORD troops 10 miles port, and ORDUNA troops 10 miles starboard, of convoy route Mombasa. (N.C.S.O. Aden 1415Z/6 to Admty. amended 0820Z/7.)

Indian Ocean anchorages. Your 1442Z/24. Approved. (D. of L.D. 1610B/6 to C. in C.E.I.)

Diego Garcia defences. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1743B/6) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.3.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

RAMSES. Yokohama arrival 30/7, painted grey over all. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0401Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

DUPLEIX, COMPIEGNE. My 0506/5. Owing to holding up of DUPLEIX at Batavia, sailing of COMPIEGNE from Saigon is postponed. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0919Z/6 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

FORT LAMY, LUCIJANA, crew trouble. CARADOC to investigate. At. St. Thomas, report crew trouble. Leave Trinidad 8/8 and proceed to St. Thomas. Consult local authority and report (A) what action is recommended with view to getting ships to sea. (B) Whether any evidence of subversive activity ashore causing trouble among crew. (C. in C.A.W.I. 10010/6 to CARADOC.)
My 10010/6. Request you notify U.S.Authorities of CARADOC's visit to St. Thomas and reason. Also ask if any objection to visit being extended beyond 24 hours if necessary. (C. in C.A.W.I. 10020/6 to N.A. Washington) See also 2212/6.

MOOLTAN. H.M. Transport MOOLTAN delayed 24 hours engine repairs, expected to sail 0600 local time 7/8. (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 10100R/6 to Admty.)

Passages from Bermuda. My 1204/14/3 to Admty. only. Situation regarding passages to U.K. from Bermuda is again serious. Only homeward bound ships calling are independent ships, 12-15 knots and over, requiring to embark A.A. guns and military personnel. Very few have accommodation available. Propose all homeward bound ships from Panama Canal having suitable accommodation should call at Bermuda, whether they are for convoy or not. (C. in C.A.W.I. 10520/6 to Admty.) Concur until position has been rectified. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1823B/8.)

/S/M's .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

S/M's. B.A.R.M. 1242R/4. Suggest they should proceed to Halifax for working up and completing to full stowage of torpedoes which were disembarked by FORTH. This would ease congestion at St. Johns, N.F. (R.A. 5 B.S. 1225P/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Use of W/T. Following is a repetition of my 1312Q/1. Your 0355Z/31. Do not agree unless there are other very strong reasons. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1258Q/6 to C. in C. China.)

Visits of neutrals to Bermuda. Following for C.C.S.O. Your 1032/5. Portuguese GUINE was diverted to Bermuda by HILARY vide F.O.C.N.P. 0946/29. My 1108/31 stated not clear whether passengers (refugees) had been approved by H.M. Consul, Lisbon, and enquiries were being made.
2. If arrival of GUINE at Bermuda had been reported to Admiralty you would have been informed immediately that no reply received from Lisbon and told what action required. Your 1032/5 was first intimation of arrival of GUINE 2/8. Presumably passenger list was found to have been approved as no contrary report received from you and Lloyds shows departure 3rd.
3. Reason for call of NYASSA at Bermuda not known here but it was known she would be carrying refugees.
4. Report whether passenger lists and also cargoes of both ships were in order.
5. Arrivals of all neutral ships subjected to Control should be reported to Admiralty vide C.B. 1993 Art. 168, also departures. (D.E.W.D. 1559/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

U.S. tugs for U.K. Admty.1556B/5. 2 large tugs each towing one small tug expecting to sail New York about 12/8 for Sydney (C.B). No other tug ready to sail to New York before end of August. MIDSHIPMAN requested to give assurance minimum speed of tug and towing 7½ knots and to forward full details to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1607Z/6 to N.C.S.O. Cape Breton, C.O.A.C.)

KURTOSO MARU, possibly fuelling raider. My 1756R/3. Investigation at San Francisco 8/6 disclosed. (a) Unusual lengths 6" by 8" hose line and fittings. (b) Pipe lines and hose supports both sides of vessel and after anchor showed evidence recent usage. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1621R/6 to Admty. etc.)

/RICHMOND .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

RICHMOND. Your 1340R/4. Approved to allocate RICHMOND to U.S.A. (Controller 1706B/6 to B.A.R.M.)

Japanese Shipping. San Francisco reports all Japanese schedules for U.S.A. cancelled. Japanese Merchant ships are painting out Flag. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1929Z/6 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)

W/T Receivers. Your 1821Z/31 N.C.S.O. Clyde denies that his C.P.O. telegraphist has told any Radio Officer to disregard orders given by another Assembly port. Defence Orders are now being produced on subject of radiation from any receiver and also on the number of broadcast receivers permissible in a ship. These orders should clarify the situation. Definite orders re sealing and unsealing at sea are also being produced. (D.T.D.2017B/6 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

CARRAS. crew trouble, CARADOC to investigate. St. Lucia reports CARRAS (Greek) bound Halifax held up, Greek crew mutinous. Captain and Officers refuse to sail unless 7 Ringleaders removed. After leaving Trinidad for St. Thomas to comply with my 1001Q/6 proceed St. Lucia and investigate. If necessary ringleaders should be arrested and kept on board until return to Trinidad unless it is possible to imprison them at St. Lucia. Important ship proceeds on voyage as early as possible. (C. in C.A.W.I. 2212Q/6 to CARADOC.)

Australia.

U.S.11 B. Arrival Fremantle 0141Z/6 CANBERRA escorting U.S.11 B. 0635Z/6 PERTH. (A.C.N.B.1244Z/6 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.L.81. (attacked 5/8.) Return to Lough Foyle and await further orders. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0053B/6 to SUPERMAN ST. OLAVES.)
Handed over hydrophonic A/S projector of GMWD (Signal letters indecypherable in W.R.) to ZINNIA in 052° 44' N., 015° 17' W., at 0359. Am rejoining convoy. CAPE RODNEY still afloat, no swell, drifting S.E. ½ knot. ZINNIA has 38 tons Oil fuel, unable to connect by W/T up to 0229B. Have transferred Chief Officer, Carpenter, and 1 Seaman of GMWD (?) to ZINNIA.
(HYDRANGEA, 0501B/6, to C. in C. W.A.)
Position of CAPE RODNEY at 1800B/5 52° 44' N., 15° 17' W., drifting S.E. 1/2 knot.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0757B/6, to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM.
Your 1945B/5 addressed C. in C. W.A., Rescue tug ZWARTE ZEE escorted by NORTHERN GEM should make contact with you at daylight/7.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0803B/6, to HYDRANGEA.)
Arrived Tugs ST. OLAVES and SUPERMAN.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1730B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)
E.T.A. 0930B/7. Have 39 survivors from CAPE RODNEY and 43 survivors of HARLINGEN on board. Have transferred Chief Officer and one seaman of CAPE RODNEY to ZINNIA to assist in salvage. On completion of disembarkation of survivors and refuelling request permission to return to base.
(HYDRANGEA, 1829B/6, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Submarines Reported.

? Time. Am over enemy S/M in 53.15 N 14.54 W.
(A/C ? No T.O.O./6 to 15 Group H.Q.)
V-enemy submarine previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge F.G.R.(A/C 0045/6, to 15 Group H.Q.)
Have lost touch with enemy submarine last seen in 53.15 N., 14.54 W.
(A/C 0208/6, to 15 Group H.Q.)

2330/5. By A/C, 53.15 N., 14.54 W. Details of hunt.
(C. in C. W.A., 1045/6, to 15 Group.)
See Lion Copy.

1010 G.M.T. By D/F at 1010/6 G.M.T. position of U/boat was within 30 miles of 51° 00' N., 14° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 1324B/6.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1419B/6.)

1345/5.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 6.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

1345/5. B.1. S/M sighted, nationality unknown, in 033° 26' N., 015° 54' W., at 1345/5, periscope depth. S/M submerged when sighted by passing Portuguese steamship.
(R.O. Funchal, 1516B/6, to Admty.)

2233/5. Opnav advises that S/M reported sighted at 2233/5 by S.S. CLAN MACINDOE was without doubt the U.S.S. MACKEREL. (Spenavo, 1800/6, to Admty.)

1800A. U-Boat reported in 036° 32' 012° 21' 260° 10 knots at 1800A. Two Catalina Aircraft hunting.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1936B/6 to SEVERN.)

2112 G.M.T. By D/F at 2112/6 G.M.T. position of U-boat was approx., 48° 30' N., 13° 00. W. This position is an indication of the area only.
(D.D.I.C. 2345B/6.)

Submarines Attacked.

1416. Am over enemy S/M in 36.31 N., 11.55 W.
(A/C duty H, 202 Sqdn., 1416/6 to Med. A/C.)
Enemy S/M previously reported was on surface and when first sighted was on course 300°. Estimated speed 8 knots. Have attacked enemy with dive bombs and estimate no hits. Have also attacked enemy with depth charges passed over depth charge leaving oil.
(Med. A/C, 202 Sqdn., duty H., 1515/6.)
202 Squadron 1 Catalina reported sighted and attacked a U-Boat in 36° 31' N., 11° 55' W., at 1416, result thick oil coming to the surface. Further 2 Catalinas despatched to take up hunt for U Boat. Area covered 37° 30' N., 10° 00' W., to 37° 30' N., 13° 30' W., to 25° 00' N., 13° 30' W., to 35° 00' N., 10° 00' W.
(200 Group, 1722/6.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Two torpedoes are suspected of having been fired by an E-boat at Convoy C.E.44 off Dover early this morning. Two heavy explosions were heard and the remains of two torpedoes were subsequently found on the foreshore.

British Air Operations.

An attack was made last night on Calais dock and harbour installations by 22 aircraft of Bomber Command.

A Coastal Command aircraft at 0040 today torpedoed amidships a 3,000 ton merchantman 25 miles S.W. of Alsboen Light.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing Trawler RENCO was damaged by M.G. and cannon fire at 1300 today in 61° 40' N., 5° 30' W., by an aircraft which also dropped bombs without result. The enemy aircraft is reported to have been probably hit and damaged.

Convoy Casing was unsuccessfully bombed at 2335 in 52° 2' N., 1° 47' E.

Mining.

Thames Estuary. Enemy aircraft were over Thames Estuary last night and it is suspected that mines were dropped. M.M.S. 39 was mined and sunk at 1730 in 51° 33' 26" N., 1° 15' 36" E. Several magnetic and accoustic mines were detonated during the day.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Convoy Attacked. Last night 7 Swordfish attacked with torpedoes an escorted convoy of 6 ships off Lampedusa and sank a 8,000 and a 6,000 ton ship. The remaining 4 ships of the convoy were later bombed by Blenheims who obtained 2 direct hits with 500 lb, bombs on an 8,000 ton merchantman which was probably sunk and one hit on a 6,000 ton ship which was badly damaged. One of the escorting destroyers did not open fire throughout, possibly on account of damage.

Libya & Western Desert. Bardia and Derna were bombed last night. Tripoli was bombed today.

Cyprus. About 3 enemy aircraft bombed Famagusta this evening, bombs being dropped in the harbour area. There were no naval casualties but a tug, AMIRAL LACAZE is reported sunk and some immaterial damage was caused to dock buildings.

Canal Area. About 14 to 20 enemy aircraft bombed Suez last night, directing their main effort against shipping to which however no damage was caused. Slight damage was caused at the oil refinery. S.S. AMRA (Egyptian) reported that 2 torpedoes were unsuccessfully fired at her during the raid in 28° 21' N. It is reported that mines were dropped.

Alexandria. There was an air attack on Alexandria from 2230 to 2350 today by about 20 aircraft; S.S. MAHOUT was slightly damaged. There was no evidence of mines being laid. Bombs dropped were apparently of small calibre.

America & West Indies.

In view of the present distribution of U-boats H.X. and S.C. Convoys are now to be sailed as separate convoys.

U-Boat Campaign.

SEVERN sank a U-boat at 0105A today in 34° 48' N., 13° 4' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M/V's. My 1019/6. Positions of Westbound vessels at 0001/7 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1051/7.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

U.S. Identification Signals. Admiralty 1818B/22 June. U.S. signals continue as follows. (D.S.D. 1601B/7.)

Task Force 16. (D.O.D.H. 1136B/7.) See Movements.

Co-operation with Russia.

Fuel for Force A. Your 2256B/5. 10,000 tons oil fuel now available for Force A in this district. Storage now maximum capacity. Supplies to replenish stock will be ordered should information be received of arrival of Force A. 2. 3,000 tons Diesel fuel also available. (B.S.N.O. Polyarno 1723C/7 to Adty.)

Movements.

SHROPSHIRE. Your 2143 B/6th. Following is a repetition of my 1621/5 begins C. in C. H.F., 1032B/5. SHROPSHIRE sailed from Hvalfjord at 1500Z. Ends. (A.C.I.C. 1051/7 to Adty.)

Task Force 16. A.M. 1045B/28 July. WASP, VINCENNES, and two destroyers returning by same route left vicinity of Iceland 0600 G.M.T./6. Speed of advance 15 knots. (D.O.D.H. 1136B/7.) (Spenavo 1650/7.)

REPULSE. Intend sailing REPULSE for Scapa at 0930/13. Passage to be completed in daylight. Request destroyer Escort may be sent accordingly. (C. in C. Rosyth 1141/7.) My 1141/7. Ship will now sail at 1030/14. (C. in C. Rosyth 1459/7.)

SEAWOLF. KINGSTON CEYLONITE and KINGSTON JACINTH will R/V you in 050° 31' N., 000° 41' W., at 0600 B/8. (Capt. S.5. 1403B/7 to SEAWOLF.)

/RENOWN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

RENOWN. A.M. 0036B/4. para. 2A. On arrival in U.K., RENOWN is proceeding to Rosyth for refit.
2. Destroyer escort from Gibraltar cannot proceed to Scapa direct.
3. C. in C. H.F., is requested to state whether destroyer escort can be made available to meet RENOWN at a R/V N.W. of Ireland and escort her direct to Rosyth.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1955B/7.)

PENELOPE WESTMINSTER CATTISTOCK. Sail at 1200 to-morrow to Tyne and arrive Tyne Pier Heads by 2000/8. You are required to provide S.A. escort with CATTISTOCK for PENELOPE from Tyne to Rosyth leaving Tyne Pier Heads at 1330/9 as ordered by F.O.I.C. Tyne. On passage to Tyne S.A. gear should be used when proceeding over 14 knots.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2155/7 to WESTMINSTER.)

SHEFFIELD. My 2203/5. Sailing postponed 24 hours. Ship will now sail 12/8.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2227/7.)

Operations.

Operation GRAB. GRAB patrol out 1100/7.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0957B/7.)
GRAB Patrol withdraw 1900/7.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1913B/7.)
Intend to resume operation GRAB a.m./9.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 2327B/7.)

Exercise LEAPFROG. Adty., 1159B/6th and my 1541B/6. It is not intended to recall ships of 6th M/S Flot., from Seidis Fiord for this exercise.
(C. in C.H.F. 1303/7.)

M.T.B. Operation. 3 M.T.B.'s sail from Dover at 2300 to operate of Berck-sur-Mer returning to Dover at about 0630. Route via D Buoy each way.
(V.A. Dover 1853B/7.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C for ARGUS.

My 1715/3. Loading will not now start before 17/8. ARGUS is to continue training until that date if this can be arranged.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1050B/7 to ARGUS.)
My 1050/7. For 17/8 read 15/8.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1831B/7.)
Your 2005B/6. Fulmars will not lead in Hurricanes but suitable fighters will be required for driving off shadowers on passage.
(C. in C.H.F. 2226B/7 to Adty.)

Clyde S.B.R.

My 1021B/5. Extension of bombing restrictions for night 7th/8th August not now required.(Capt. S.7. 1102B/7 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

800 and 812 Squadrons.

Your 1621/6. Request disposal and strength if known of 800 and 812 Squadrons.
(D.N.A.D., 1106B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Bombing operations on 6/8 and Night 6/7.

During day 6/8 two A/C bombed Brest. Bombs burst in Rade Abri and immediately West of Rade Abri. 3 A/C attacked 2 M/V's in convoy 5 miles off Texel. One M/V received a direct hit and when last seen was down by the stern. On Night 6/7 Calais, Ostend, Boulogne and Dunkirk were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. 1525/7.)

Clyde Air R/C.

Request reply to My 1654/26/7. R/C Flight urgently required.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1137B/7 to Air Ministry.)

Patrols.

STAB? TROST and BERT in operation. STAND will be flown later.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2232/7.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Ramsgate bombed on 6/8.

Enemy aircraft dropped one H.E. bomb at 2315/6 on Foreshore about 50 yards from Petrol Store West Wall. Insignificant naval damage. No casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0900B/7, 1020B/7.)

/TUNISIA.....

War Diary. 7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. Contd.

TUNISIA. (Bombed 4/8.) — Keep a specially good look-out for 3 life-boats from TUNISIA. (C. in C. W.A. 1159B/7 to VICEROY, WOOLSTON.)

Convoy. — Enemy A/C bombing Convoy CASING position 52° 2' N., 1° 47' E. (WOLSEY 2235/7.) My 2235. No hits. (WOLSEY 2314/7.)

Convoy. — Convoy BREAST being shadowed by one enemy aircraft. Position 53° 41' N., 0° 40' E. (VERSATILE 2244/7.)

Mining.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7.) — R.A.(D) H.F. 2317B/6. Request A/S air escort be arranged. 14 Group will be requested to provide fighter protection in due course. (A.C.O.S. 1145B/7 to Group 18.) Your 2317B/6. Intend sailing ANTELOPE and ACHATES in tow ASSURANCE at 2200B/7. (HARRIER 1415A/7.) Request long term weather forecast for area east coast Iceland west of Faroes to Pentland Firth with special reference to wind and sea may be passed to ANTELOPE. (R.A.D. H.F., 2304B/7 to Adty.)

The Downs. — Sweeping carried out to 0800/7. By S.A. trawler, between Dumpton and Dover. One Acoustic Mine detonated in position 147 N.W. Goodwin buoy 3 cables. By LL trawlers. Q.Z.S. 191 negative result. (V.A. Dover 1231B/7.)

Rosyth Command. — 11/6 to 6/8 the following drifting mines and German Explosive Floats have been dealt with in this Command. Particulars. (C. in C. Rosyth 1603/7.)

White Sea and Murmansk Areas. — Following information has been received from Moscow. Repeats Ad. Miles, Moscow 1006/6. (A.C.N.S. H. 1610B/7. to C. in C. H.F.)

/Thames.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining Contd.

Thames Estuary on Night 6/7.

Between 2310 and 2314 three Bombs or mines believed dropped in Barrow Deep between B.5 and B.6 Buoys, two may have exploded soon afterwards. At 2315 a mine suspected dropped near the Kennymore Wreck buoy. At 0230 an explosion occurred near North end of Middle Deep. Aircraft were overhead at the time. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1754/7.)

Spurn Point.

Following two mines self detonated on 6/8. Details. (F.O. Humber 1815B/7.)

M.M.39. sunk.

M.M.S. 39 mined and sunk in 51° 33' 26" N., 1° 15' 36" E., at 1730/7/8. 15 survivors. 3 missing believed dead. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness 2125/7.)

Harwich.

Explosion in 51° 47.1' N., 1° 21.8' E., presume ground mine, at 1640/7. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2251B/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.

LEIPZIG on 1/8.

Enemy cruiser bearing name LEIPZIG at Travemunde 1/8. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1019/7.)

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.

Convoy F.S.59. 8 ships. grounded 6/8.

Chief Salvage Officer Yarmouth reports casualties on Haisborough Sands all more or less submerged with extensive hull damage and heavy seas breaking entirely over them with no hopes of salvage and they can be considered as total losses. Even recovery of any armament very doubtful owing to submerged condition of wrecks and exposed conditions. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0956B/7.) See also C. in C. Nore 0051B/7, 1126B/7, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0457B/7, 0903B/7, North Foreland 0722B/7. F.O.I/C Yarmouth reports H.M.T. BASSETT appears to have carried out outstandingly good work in the rescue of crews. Details. No casualties in BASSETT's crew. Also that Gorleston lifeboat and lifeboats from Cromer and one from Lowestoft did excellent work in rescue of crews. (C. in C. Nore 1500B/7.)

/WARWICK.....

War Diary.

7.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

WARWICK CASTLE. WINDSOR CASTLE collision.

WARWICK CASTLE damaged in collision with WINDSOR CASTLE at 0025B/7 in 51° 9' N., 27° 49' W., and since steering 185 at slow speed. GURKHA and destroyers are in vicinity. Escort to Halifax with BROADWAY. Detach BROADWAY to fuel when necessary. Bow of WARWICK CASTLE, badly damaged, making water, but she reported she can make good 10 knots. (WINDSOR CASTLE is able to proceed with convoy at 23 knots with number two oil tank flooded. (LONDON 0216B/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.)

LADY MADELEINE (Escort Trawler.) grounded.

LADY MADELEINE hard aground in River Foyle due to jambed helm. Hope to refloat at high water or tomorrow. Anticipate that Rocky bottom has caused damage which will necessitate docking. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1746B/7.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X. and S.C.Convoys.

My 1243/18/7 and your 1307/22/7. In view of present distribution of U-boats, H.X. and S.C. Convoys should now be sailed as separate Convoys. (A.C.N.S.(T) 0004B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.G.71.
H.G.72.

Your 1253B/5. Concur.
(D.T.D. 0121B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

WINDSOR CASTLE. WARWICK CASTLE. (ex W.S.10.)

You may be required to escort WINDSOR CASTLE and WARWICK CASTLE to Halifax. Remain in vicinity. (LONDON 0213B/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.) W.D. Note - Both LONDON and WORCESTERSHIRE at present escorting W.S.10.

W.S.10.
GURKHA.

Proceed in accordance with my 1234 B/6.(N.T. in W.R.) when no longer required by WORCESTERSHIRE. (LONDON, 0313B/7, to GURKHA.)
List of ships in W.S.10, numbers, destinations, and instructions after arrival. (D.O.D. (F) 1916B/7 Amended 0327B/9 to C. in C's S.A., and E.I.) See Lion Copy.
Your 0921 B/7 (N.T. in W.D.) Not in contact. Am returning to harbour as I must refuel. My P.C. and S., are 049° 40' N., 030° 30' W., 262° 13.
(BROADWAY, 0830Z/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.)

/W.S.11.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

W.S.11.	Proposed arrangements. (D.S.T. 0446B/7, to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland.) See Lion Copy.
F.S.59.	7 ships and H.M.S. AGATE stranded on Haisboro Sand. (See Casualties.)
Balloons and Kites.	Proposed revised rules. (D.G.D., 1557B/7 to Air Ministry.) See Lion Copy.
M/V's firing at Aircraft.	Proposed revised rules. (D.G.D., 1557B/7 to Air Ministry.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ERNANI (Italian). Loss published by Spanish Press, stating sunk by a British S/M. Loss has been confirmed from a trustworthy source. (D.S. 702).

MALVERNIAN. (sunk 1/7). 57 survivors of MALVERNIAN arrived 6/8 are being sent in LEINSTER. Ref. N.A. Madrid's letters 270/41 of 25/7 and 276/41 of 30/7 to D.N.I., I entirely agree that an enquiry is necessary, but have not ordered one at Gibraltar. Firstly, not to miss this opportunity of passage, and secondly because if, as seems likely, several courts-martial follow, details are certain to reach the Spaniards who released the survivors under the impression that they were merchant seamen. Anti-typhus precautions have been taken. (F.O.C.N.A., 0634B/7 to Admty.)

LE TRAIT (French). Portuguese Sloop AFONSO DE ALBUQUERQUE leaves Lisbon August 10th for Madeira.
Training Ship SAGRES leaves Funchal August 9th for Horta. LE TRAIT has left Oporto for Lisbon. (N.A. Lisbon, 1102/7 to Admty.)

Force H destroyers. Available destroyers in 8th D.F. now reduced to 3 which is inadequate to screen NELSON and ARK ROYAL. 13th D.F. can only furnish one fleet destroyer and this rarely available owing to intense S/M activity. Can ENCOUNTER join 8th D.F. to replace FEARLESS or at any rate be retained until return of another F? (S.O. Force 'H' 1107B/7, amended 1733B/7 to Admty.)

PARTHIAN. My 1508B/5 amend route as follows through 36° 45' 00° 10' E. and 180°. Alboran Island 15. (F.O.C.N.A. 1138B/7 to PARTHIAN).

FAULKNOR defects. Starboard L.P. turbine blade of FAULKNOR has been damaged. (details). No lifting gear nor spare blade available locally. Estimated time of lifting and replacing rotor 4 - 6 weeks apart from repairs found necessary. Propose ship be sailed for U.K. forthwith. (S.O. Force H., 1731B/7 to Admty.) Approved (V.C.N.S., 0018B/8).

Portuguese President. CARVALHO ARAUJO with Portuguese President aboard escorted by Portuguese destroyers LIMA, DAO expected to leave Santa Maria, Azores, 1530/8 due Lisbon P.M./11. (F.O.C.N.A. 2157A/7 to N.A. Stn.)

RENOWN. N.A. Lisbon's 1204/7 (N.T. in W.D) RENOWN should if practicable be routed to meet convoy and salute President. (V.C.N.S. 2232B/7 to F.O.C.N.A)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

French Ships Tamatave. Passed to Admty. for information. Following received 6/8 and graded A.O. begins: Six merchant ships fully loaded now at Tamatave homeward bound waiting for escort which will be MONTCALM (ends). (S.O.I. Capetown, 1025/7 to C. in C.S.A.)

VERVAIN. Signal T.O.O. 2130Z/5 purporting to be from HIBISCUS stating VERVAIN under own power since 2100/4 boiler only. Have you any other information? I have none. (C. in C. S.A., 1107N/7 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Your 1107N/7. Signal was from CLOVER, he should refer to 1545Z/4 which is being passed.
(C. in C. S.A. 1747B/7 to F.O.C.N.A). (W.R. Note:- 2130Z/5 quoted in 1107N/7 not received in War Registry. Subject, H.M.S. VERVAIN).

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE. W.S.10X. Admty. 1816/6. It is considered very doubtful if DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will be able to maintain a speed of 15 knots on passage and probable that if this is attempted defects will result. She should be capable of 14 knots with some certainty. (C. in C. S. A., 1135N/7 to Admty.)

Boom Vessels. Your 2101N/2. Boom vessels delayed by defects Expect sail about mid August in Company with BARMILL, PHYLLISIA and LORD GAINFORD. A second group of boom vessels BARRYMORE, TEAL, JAN DE WAELE, PRINCE DE LIEGE and GRAAF VAN VLANDEREN expected to follow about 20/8. (D.B.D., 1305B/7 to C. in C. S.A).

ADVANCE. My 2257/6. Santos, reports Finnish ADVANCE expected to sail 11/8 or early morning 12/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1507Z/7 to R.A.S.A.D).

NIEUW ZEELAND. Your 1845/1/8. Propose after disembarking Nigerian Brigade at Lagos, proceed Freetown to embark Government Officials, Service Personnel and Indian, Chinese Mercantile Marine survivors requiring passage to Cape, India and Far East. Resources at Freetown are strained with large number of survivors now in the port. My 0900/4/7 to Admty. refers. (C. in C. S.A. 1947N/7 to D. of S.T.)

Convoy Escorts. Reply to Admty. 1243/3 re group escort system. (C. in C. S.A., 2103N/7) See Lion Copy.

ASUKA MARU. Japanese. My 2143Z/6. Arrived Rio de Janeiro today 7/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2255Z/7 to S.O.I. Freetown).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

KANDAHAR.
KIMBERLEY.

Take KIMBERLEY under your orders. Sail forthwith keeping close inshore to be close off Mersa Matruh at (?1600/7). Further orders will be given. (C. in C. Med., 09170/7 to KANDAHAR).
My 09170/7. (a) If visibility is bad enough to give reasonable security against air attack you should continue westward keeping inshore but do not cross longitude of Sidi Barrani before 2000/7 unless otherwise ordered. (b) If weather clear, turn east 1600 and back again to be off Mersa Matruh at 2000 by which time further orders will be sent. Report if you adopt (a). (C. in C. Med., 12030/7 to KANDAHAR).
2 "A" Lighters from Mersa Matruh to Tobruk expected to be 4 miles north of Sidi Barrani at 1300 to-day thence course 319° at 6 knots, but they may have turned back for Mersa Matruh.
MARIA GIOVANNI expected in 032° 00' 026° (?25') at 1730 to-day steering to off Mersa Matruh thence to Alexandria 7 knots. (R.A. Alexandria, 12410/7 to KANDAHAR).
My 12050/7 (? 12030/7) If no further orders have been received by 2000 return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 17470/7 to KANDAHAR, KINGSTON, etc.)

Sunderland lost.

Broadcast from Berlin 5/8 claims Italian S/M shot down a Sunderland and captured crew. This probably refers to Sunderland missing night 1/2. Operation was in co-operation with naval search for enemy S/M.

Benghazi, Derna bombed.

Night 5/6, 7 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour bombs falling at bases of Central, Cathedral and Italian Moles. Further bombs fell on railway workshops and W/T Station. 2 Marylands 1 Blenheim 5 Wellingtons bombed Derna port M.T. workshops and satellite landing ground. (H.Q. R.A.F.M.E., 1042/7).

ABDIEL.

You will be required for "Guillotine" Serial 20 P. Mining practices at Haifa maybe continued until then. (C. in C. Med., 11170/7 to ABDIEL).

PHOENIX tug (mined 5/8).

My 19170/5. Further evidence shows PHOENIX was not in Channel but well inside previously reported danger area, these two mines are in consequence considered as having been laid during previous raids 6th and 16/7. (S.B.N.O. Suez 12290/7 to Admty. etc.)

/NEPTUNE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

NEPTUNE. JACKAL. ABDIEL. — Serial 15, E.T.A. Point of arrival 23450/7 NEPTUNE requests lights from 23450. Ships will enter harbour at 01000/8 in the order JACKAL, NEPTUNE, ABDIEL. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 13110/7 to N.O.I.C. Famagusta).

Suez Raid. — 2 attacks by enemy aircraft at Suez between 2140 and 0530/7. First of short duration by one or two enemy aircraft, no damage. Second attack commenced 0130 by about 13 enemy aircraft at irregular intervals. About 12 bombs among shipping, no damage. About 8 bombs on town and some in desert. D.A. Office demolished, no European or service casualties. Native casualties believed 31 killed 40 injured. 3 bombs on Shell Refinery caused fire, soon under control, expected work will be resumed today, production not affected. 3 U.X.M's or U.X. (?B)'s in approach channel, 2 Port Ibrahim, 1 km. 159. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 13450/7).

German Warships, Salonika. — Soviet Naval Authorities state that they had Intelligence that on August 5/6, German warships were in Gulf of Salonika and communicating by W/T with Salonika. (Adm. Miles (Moscow) 1530/7 to Admty.).

Malta Raid. — Night 6/7, 3 raiders. One destroyed in flames into sea. No bombs on land, as others turned back on seeing first aircraft on fire.

2 M/V's sunk 7/8. — Night 6/7, 7 Swordfish torpedo attacked convoy off Lampedusa. 5 torpedoes released number of hits not known but M/V 8000 tons and second of 6000 tons sunk, confirmed by all aircraft only 4 M/V's and 6 DR's seen later by Blenheims A.M.7/8 when 8 Blenheims bombed same convoy now consisting 4 M/V's, 6 DR's at 0545 hours 80 miles E.S.E. Kerkeneh. Two direct hits with 500 lb. bombs on an 8000 ton M/V claimed very seriously damaged and probably sunk. Another M/V 6000 tons one direct hit claimed badly damaged, 2 500 lb. bombs dropped on Spanish Quay Tripoli at 1210 hours. (H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1700/7).

1 M/V sunk 8/8.

Tripoli bombed.

/Beirut.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Beirut Cable.	Your 1911C/31. Part of Beirut Tunis cable should not be picked up as spare pending I.C.C. decision regarding diversion of this cable suggested in W.O. message 0522 of 27/7 to C. in C. Mid. East. (Head of M. 2018B/7 to C. in C. Med.)
Situation report 110.	Western Desert. Air and surface operations continue but no ships sighted by air R/C. Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour night 5/6. Canal Area. Air raid night 6/7 Port Tewfik, some damage to Naval building. My 2356/4 ALEXANDRE ANDRE now reported proceeding Port Sudan, no assistance required. (C. in C. Med., 23590/7 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S.12 A. — A.C.N.B. state U.S. 12 A. will require 12,000 tons fuel oil Trincomalee 10/9. Can the bunkering be undertaken without the assistance of Commercial Tankers? If not please report urgently your Minimum requirements.
(D. of S.T., 0447B/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

DESMOULEA. — Tanker, 8120 tons, damaged by enemy A/C night of 3-4/8, is seaworthy and has been towed to Aden. (D.S. 702).

MAREEBA, VELEBIT. — Overdue, presumed lost, now believed sunk by a raider in Indian Ocean, probably on 26/6 in approx. 8° N., 88° E. (D.S. 702).

RANCHI. — Following Patrol ordered. RANCHI leave Durban 8/8 arrive Durban A.M./16/8.
(C. in C. E.I., 0746Z/7 to N.L.O. Durban).

SOBIESKI, CARTHAGE. — Your 0820Z/27. Owing to delay in completion of SOBIESKI it will not now be possible to dock CARTHAGE till 12/8.
(N.L.O., Durban, 1652Z/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Japanese Warships. — Off Gau Ta Island. Present second Japanese submarine escorted by Japanese Trawler. Amoy arrival 4th, 1 Japanese Seaplane Carrier and 1 Japanese Transport.
Hong Kong South Port Toltal 5th/6th Japanese submarine Depot Ship TYOGEI, 1 Japanese submarine, Japanese Mining Vessel YAYEYAMA.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0824/7 to Admty).

GOUVERNEUR GENERAL MAURICE LONG French. — Arrived 7/8. (Saigon, 0829Z/7 to M. of W.T.)

Christmas Island. — Proximity of air bases in Java and difficulty which Japanese would encounter in transporting phosphate through passage between Dutch islands render it most improbable that they could obtain supplies from Christmas Island. Consider therefore that we are justified in retaining plant loading facilities. Defence details. (C. in C. Far East, 1744/7 to W.O.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

BEARN. Following received from OPNAV. On morning of 6/8 BEARN will depart for Basseterre according to a report from a Naval Observer. BEARN will remain at Basseterre during next day and from 7 /8 to 13/8 she will visit the Saintes, on 14/8 she will return to Fort de France. Purpose of trip is relaxation of personnel. 0040/7 (ends). (D.C., 0208B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U.S. Patrols. Following cofrection to A.E. Admty 7/30/41 (T.H.I. 0600/30) received from OPNAV and ALUSNA, Ottawa has been directed to Pass to C.N.S. Ottawa for information. Task Group 2.6 has been temporarily broken up for special exercises and para 2 of reference dispatch is hereby cancelled. Para 2 should now read as follows. Only one destroyer and SAVANNAH are expected to resume Patrol to Eastward of Bermuda about 8/8. Original route will be shortened as necessary in order to pass in vicinity of Bermuda Westbound 15/8. On 17/8 the ships are expected to arrive at Hampton Roads. (Spenavo, T.H.I., 0338/7 to Admty, D.O.D. (F) 1222B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc).

Passages from Bermuda. C. in C. A.W.I., 1052Q/6 H.M. transport MOOLTAN sailed 1100 G.M.T./7 routed to Bermuda has accommodation for 120 1st or 2nd class male or female and 859 others ranks. Further 354 possible but without Hammocks. Due A.M./11. (S.N.O. Curacao, 0900QR/7to Admty).

LANCASTER, VILLE DE ROUEN, "Q" Report 22/7. Master of LANCASTER American Ship Capetown to Trinidad passed VILLE DE ROUEN, French, on opposite course in 020° 013° 18' W., at 1140/22/7. Neither ship altered course. Whilst passing LANCASTER picked up W/T QQQQ 018° 10' S., 009° 23' W., HARMONIDES suspicious. This message was interfered with by station close by, obviously VILLE DE ROUEN using false signal letters K I K B, American WEST CHESWOLD, which ship was 3 days behind LANCASTER bound for Trinidad*(N.O.I.C., Trinidad, 1137Q/7 to S.O.(I) Kingston)* Description of VILLE DE ROUEN.

FORT LAMY, CARRAS, crew trouble. My 2212Q/6 and my 1001Q/6. Significant that FORT LAMY and CARRAS have both recently arrived from Captown; possible that trouble may be due to subversive influences there. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1209Q/7 to Admty).

RODNEY. Programme after refit. (B.A.R.M., 1542R/7 to Admty See Operations Volume.

/RAKUYO.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RAKUYO MARU Oil supplies for Japanese.

Admty 0013B/3 and my 1254R/5. Callao reports Chilean Authorities issuing permit 400 tons for RAKUYO MARU. Master endeavouring obtain permit for 300 tons at Talara. In addition Chilean Authorities will issue permit for 1400 tons to cover requirements 3 further ships expected. Oil Company reluctant supply.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1751R/7 to Admty).

Visit of CARADOC to St. Thomas.

Tel. No. 3714 ? to N.O.I.C. Trinidad. Your tel to N.A. 1002Q/6 last para.
In view of efforts which U.S. authorities are taking to bring present difficulties to an end, they might well resent despatch of one of H.M. Ships. I hope you will agree to postpone visit of CARADOC at all events until I am able to form proper estimate of situation.
(Brit. Ambassador, Washington, 1930/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 7.8.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

General.

Night Tactics. The fact that A/S escort vessels have recently located and attacked U boats closing our convoys at night may lead the enemy to vary his U-boat night tactics. No variation is likely in presence of a weak escort, but a probable development with a long-range browning attack from bow or even ahead of convoy. (D.A/S.W., Approved A.C.N.S. (T) 1402B/7 to C. in C. W.A., etc).

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN SITOEBONDO (torpedoed 29-30/7). CAMPSA informs me CAMPORE proceeding Punta Delgada Azores with 29 survivors of British SHAREKONIA (?SHAHRISTAN) also MARNECHE landed 59 survivors from Dutch SITOEBONDO same place. (N.A. Madrid, 1105/7 to Admty).
Capt. of Port Ponta Delgada informs he has received by wireless message from Spanish Tanker CAMPERO that she has picked up 38 survivors British SHAHRISTAN and is searching for third boat in the neighbourhood 34.49 N., 25.06 W.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1221/7).

S.L.81 CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN. (torpedoed 5/8). Now clear that 3 U-boats were sighted by WANDERER on the surface between 1410B and 1540B/4 These U-boats were apparently shadowing S.L.81 from position 15 to 35 miles ahead and co-operatin with 2 F.W. aircraft. Sea calm, clear sky, extreme visibility, yet peculiar that U-boats surfaced within 6 miles of Maplin and 3 destroyers without apparently sighting them till they were on surface. Suggested that here are elements upon which to base an offensive sweep.
(WANDERER, 1109B/7 to C. in C. W.A., Admty).
Arrived HYDRANGEA with survivors from CAPE RODNEY and HARLINGEN.
CAPE RODNEY in tow 1530B at low speed from position C52° 11' N., 014° 42' W., course 048° towards Rothesay Bay. No. 2 hold water level and some water in engine room. Crew not aboard but n assistance needed at present.
(ZWART ZEE, 1730B/7 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Your 1524B/7 CAPE RODNEY in tow. S. of A. 5 knot due to inability to steer CAPE RODNEY. 2000B/7 approx. position 052° 18' N., 014° 28' W., course 048° (weather). Your 1613B/7 attempts to ram developing into stern chase and visual attack. 0210 half conning tower submerged ahead at less than 200 yards range with ZINNIA overhauling at about 6 knots. Fired one at 50 feet. 0211 fired one at 50. 0212 fired 3 and 150 and one heavy at 225 feet. Surface speed of submarine was 16 knots. (ZINNIA, 1900B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Have.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

7.8.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.L.81 CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN. (torpedoed 5/8). Contd.

Have placed 12 volunteers aboard CAPE RODNEY to endeavour to raise steam. Hope to be able to steer by P.M. tomorrow and with luck use main engine. Weather conditions same. No observation, present speed two knots. (ZINNIA, 2230B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
Arrived BLUEBELL with 2 survivors from SWIFTPOOL and 43 from BELGRAVIAN. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1938B/7 to C. in C. W.A. etc).

Soviet Aux. Vessels.

Soviet Unian 500 tons auxiliary vessel torpedoed, by U-boat in 69° 15' N., 35° E. at 2000C/6. Fact. 2. U-Boat reported in vicinity of 69° 45' N., 33° 20' E., 1000C/7. Grade C.5.
3. Admiralty pass to F.O.(S) TRIDENT.
(S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 1744C/7 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

0324 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0324/7 G.M.T. U-boat probably inward bound, estimated to be anywhere within 60 miles of 46° 50' N., 08° W.
(D.D.I.C., 0828B/7).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1446B/7).

0001

S/M reported in Vidfiord 065° 05' N., 013° 35' W., at 0001/7. Graded A.2 by S.N.O. Seidis Fiord.
(A.C.I.C., 1605/7 to C. in C. H.F. etc).

1345/5.

On 5/8 at 1345 G.M.T. Portuguese Merchant ship spoken by Submarine position 33.26 N., 15.54 W.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1817/7 to Admty).

2140 G.M.T.

Following intercepted by Camperdown at 2109 G.M.T intercepted from Cape Race. Following begins. Saw conning towar with two numbers at 2040 G.M.T. in 43.40 N., 32.00W., 2100/7, no call sign or name given. (Ends).
(? 2140Z/7 to Admty).

Submarines Attacked.

By ZINNIA.

ZINNIA, 1900B/7. (See Ships Attacked, S.L.81).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B. patrol. 3 M.T.B's from Dover operated last night off Berck Sur Mer.

British Air Operations.

2 Hampdens engaged in minelaying last night attacked shipping off the east coast of Denmark and claim to have obtained 2 hits on a medium sized merchant vessel.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler JOHN DONOVAN was slightly damaged by bombing this afternoon, east of Sydero.

One aircraft bombed Aberdeen harbour at 0053 today. No naval damage is reported. This is the third occasion during this week on which single aircraft have dropped bombs on Aberdeen harbour and adjacent areas; and C. in C. Rosyth asks for an increase in the defences.

Convoy "Funnel" was attacked off the Firth of Forth at 2355.

Tanker GOLD SHELL was bombed and damaged about midnight 7/8 August off Cromer.

Yarmouth was bombed last night. No naval damage was caused.

Convoy E.C.57 was unsuccessfully attacked at 1720B today near 55A buoy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Aircraft last night laid mines in various positions near the Frisian Is. and Denmark.

North Atlantic.

WIVERN in 32° 49' N. 10° 14' W. steering for Gib. reported at 2000Z that she had a developing defect which necessitated her being towed.

South Atlantic.

Troop Transport. It is intended to turn round ships of W.S. convoys in South Africa to the maximum possible extent in future. MAURETANIA and other large liners will be kept on their present Durban/Suez service, supplemented by Dutch troopships and other vessels which can be used to better advantage in Indian Ocean than in Atlantic.

Mediterranean.

Malta. Three raiders bombed Malta last night. No damage or casualties were caused.

5 Blenheims attacked merchant ships at Catania harbour today, probably damaging a 2000 ton ship.

Libya and Western Desert. 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli dock area in the early hours of today. Later in the day two 500 lb. bombs were dropped on a corner of the harbour. Bardia, Benghazi and Capuzzo were also bombed.

/Tobruk .....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Tobruk harbour was shelled today, but no damage was caused to the harbour. Tobruk harbour and Mersa Matruh were bombed last night, but no damage is reported.

Alexandria. About 25 aircraft attacked Alexandria last night; a quay was hit, but there was no other serious damage to the harbour and no Naval damage occurred. S.S. MAHOUT was slightly damaged by a near miss.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M/V's. My 1051/7. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/8 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1109/8).

MALAYA. C. in C. Rosyth's 1009/7. Request you will take MALAYA under your orders and that you will report when she is fully worked up. (A.C.N.S. H. 1324B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

W/T Traffic of U.S.A. warships in Iceland. Your 1002B/12th July. Question of W/T security is being taken up with U.S. Authorities, and it is considered that in the meantime the clandestine watching of U.S. Naval frequencies is undesirable. (V.C.N.S. 2311B/8 to C. in C. H.F)

Defence of U.K.

Aberdeen A/A Defences. Following received from F.O.I.C. Aberdeen begins:- "Suggest A/A Defence of Aberdeen now deserving immediate reinforcement. Bombs dropped on seven occasions during past three months and three occasions during past week. Considerable structural damage caused. Suggest approval be sought to fly available mark VI balloons at 1000 feet from suitable positions or ships in harbour area. T.O.O. 1032/8/8 ends". Importance of immediate reinforcement fully concurred in. Though provision of heavy guns is felt to be the best defence it is considered that mark VI balloons would give at least some protection against low-flying attacks until guns are emplaced. Suggest therefore that very early provision of guns envisaged in A.L. M.09584/41 of 21st July 1941 may be pressed for and that immediate approval may be obtained to fly mark VI balloons as proposed by the F.O.I.C. but that it should be permitted to fly these balloons up to their maximum operational height instead of 1000 feet. (C. in C. Rosyth 1255/8).

Tyne Anchorages A/A Defence. CONQUEROR. Your 1249/2. CONQUEROR is allocated temporarily to this duty and is to be sailed for the Tyne on completion of working up.
2. This ship is armed as follows.
3. D.M.W.D. Admiralty will maintain direct touch with the ship regarding her armament and experience gained in action. The armament is not to be altered without Admiralty approval.
5. An EAGLE ship fitted with R.D.F. could be sent later from the Thames if desired.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2009B/8 to C. in C. Rosyth).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

MAID HONOUR. — My 1653B/4 and my 1533B/31. Intend to sail MAID HONOUR p.m./9th. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1613B/8).

KATLA. GODAFOSS. (Icelandic ships). — My 1332Z/8. U.S. N.A. states C. in C. Atlantic reports Great Circle route to 46° N. 53° W. thence proceed towards destinations one destroyer with each ship to 55° W. where destroyers break off and proceed Casco Bay. (N.S.H.Q. 1635Z/8).

RENOWN. — Your 1955B/7 para. 3. Escort can be made available, sailing from Scapa P.M./11. (C. in C. H.F. 2221B/8 to Adty.).

SHROPSHIRE. — My 1032B/5. Return Hvalfjord when ADVENTURE has passed latitude 066° N. (C. in C. H.F. 2328B/8 to SHROPSHIRE).

Operations.

Operation "Dervish". — D.C.D. (H) 0019B/8 to C. in C. W.A. (See Shipping and Convoys).

W.S.8.C. — My 1134B/6. Sailed. Codeword EAGER. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0634/8).

Net-laying. — Departure TONBRIDGE and escort for net laying operations off Sheringham. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0650B/8).
Departure MINSTER on net laying duties off Dunwich. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0946B/8).

Convoy C.E. 44. Two torpedoes at Dover. — At 0434/7 when rear of convoy C.E. 44 was passing two heavy explosions were observed at foot of cliffs 600 yards east of eastern arm Dover. A coastal battery O.P. reported having seen two streaks on the water in a 150° direction and later investigation at low water found remains of two torpedoes on foreshore.
As torpedoes arrived simultaneously it is probable that they were fired from within 6 to 8 thousand yards of the shore. An "E" boat is suspected but there were no other indications of its activities. (V.A. Dover 1114B/8).

/My 1114B.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Convoy C.E. 44. Two torpedoes at Dover. -Contd.

My 1114B which is being passed to C.S.S. The possibility that these torpedoes were fired by -an enemy vessel from outside visual range and using R.D.F. cannot be overlooked. Therefore propose that an R.D.F. officer and receiving equipment be embarked in the next C.W. convoy leaving Sheerness at about 1600/10 to investigate the type and frequency of any R.D.F. transmissions from enemy vessels in the channel. (V.A. Dover 2012B/8).

Anti E-Boat Patrol.

Weather permitting one unit of M.G.B's is to carry out the following anti E-boat patrol tonight. Unit is to proceed through gap E. to position R.N.X.U. 27270 thence to 52° 45' N. 3° 20' E. and patrol 10 miles either side of this position in direction 00° - 180° returning through gap E. at daylight. (C. in C. Nore 1426B/8 to BEEHIVE).
Departures M.G.B's 62, 60, 67. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2050B/8).

FIDELITY (S.S. Vessel).

Anticipated that FIDELITY will leave on her next series of operations in company with Convoy O.G. 72 on 19/8.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange working up practices, including tests of all camouflage equipment and boat trials, from some secluded anchorage.
4. An officer from Admiralty will shortly visit C. in C. W.A. and F.O.I.C. Liverpool as convenient to them in connection with the ship's operations. (D.O.D. H. 1956B/8).

Operation 'Grab'.

My 2327B/7. 'Grab' postponed until 1100/10. (C. in C. Portsmouth 2237B/8).

British Air Activity.

Own A/C fired on.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Harwich. Begins. During night 5/6 a friendly bomber was fired upon by H.M.T. EDWARD WALMSLEY and on night 6/7 another by EMPEROR OF INDIA. These circumstances are regretted. But both Aircraft were flying low. Both escaped destruction by evasive action. 2315B/7 ends. (C. in C. Nore 0052B/8).

S.B. Restrictions.

My 1021B/5. Extension of bombing restrictions not now required for night 10/11. (Capt. S.7 0931B/8).
Request T.B.R. (A) 20 miles either side of a line joining 49° N. 6° 30' W. and 050° N. 005° 50' W. between 2300B/8 and 1000B/9, and (B) in area 51 North of latitude 050° N. and east of 006° 30' W. between 0400B/9 and 1200B/9. (Capt. S.3 1427B/8 to H.Q.C.C).

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.-Contd.

Clyde R/C Flight.

Your 1654/26/7 and 1137B/7/8. Flight authorised by our A740 9/7/41. West Freugh unable to assist. Request you arrange suitable A/C through 13 Group as authorised in Fighter Command's A239/7/7. (Air Ministry FO6. 1148/8 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).

Patrols.

PRU of Frederikshavn, Aalberg and of Bergen - Oslo-Kristiansand - Stavanger in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1206/8).
'Trost' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1240/8).
'Stab' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 2306/8).

Bombing Operations.

During day 7/8 A/C bombed Barges near Gravelines. On Night 7/8 one M/V claimed sunk by mine-laying Hampdens, and Boulogne and Rotterdam attacked. (H.Q.B.C. 1700/8).

A/C for ARGUS.

My 1715/3.
1. 24 unerected Hurricanes Mark two B and two Martlets III of 802 Squadron are to be loaded in ARGUS starting 15/8.
(D.N.A.D. 1941B/8 to ARGUS).

A/C for FURIOUS.

FURIOUS is to [illegible] 65 unerected tropicalised Mark two B Hurricanes by lighter from Abbotsinch commencing 17/8.
3. Naval aircraft for outward passage will be 9 Swordfish of 812 Squadron and 4 Sea Hurricanes of 880 Squadron which will be embarked prior to arrival in Clyde. (A.C.N.S. F. 1958B/8).

Russian A/C.

F.S.H. para. 18. Soviet aircraft may be sighted flying in close formation. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2141C/8 to TRIDENT).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.2. GOLD SHELL (British Tanker, 8208 Tons) bombed.

GOLD SHELL damaged. Bombed in 53° 5' N. 1° 32' E. CATTISTOCK standing by. (WOLSEY 0019B/8). Taken in tow by CATTISTOCK and later joined by Tugs. (C. in C. Nore 1002B/8) Arrived Humber 1920/8 in tow of Tugs. (F.O. Humber 1921B/8 and N.C.S.O. Humber 1930B/8). See also CATTISTOCK 0026B/8, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0130B/8, 0222B/8, C. in C. Nore 0139B/8, 0233B/8, 0806B/8.

/Convoy F.S...

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HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.-Contd.

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Patrols. — PRU of Frederikshavn, Aalberg and of Bergen - Oslo-Kristiansand - Stavanger in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1206/8).
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/Convoy F.S...

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Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Convoy F.S. Odd.	One aircraft shadowing convoy 'Merit'. My position 55° 22' N. 1° 10' W. (Rear Ship of Convoy 0048B/8).
Aberdeen bombed.	Harbour attacked by one A/C 0053/8. Engaged by ships and A.A. Defences. Two bombs one north, one south of Dee started small fires, now out. No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0456/8).
Yarmouth bombed.	Great Yarmouth bombed night 7/8. Some damage to land line communications which should be restored during course of day. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0944B/8).
RENCO. (Fishing Trawler) attacked.	At 1300/7 in 61? 40' N. 5° 30' W. RENCO unaccompan-ied from Faeroes to Scrabster was attacked 3 times from low height by HE 111 with 3 bombs M/G and cannon fire. Approach of E/A was not heard by RENCO who opened fire immediately it was seen. No damage to Trawler except from M/G and cannon. Mate slight wound from splinter. E/A probably hit and damaged. (A.C.O.S. 1157/8).
Convoy.	One enemy A/C in 54° 5' N. 0° 9' E. (VIMIERA 1253/8 and 1255B/8).
Convoy F.N.	One aircraft shadowing convoy 'Casing' in 54° 10' N. 0° 6' W. (WOLSEY 1254/8).
Convoy E.N. Even.	Fighter protection is being sent. (Nore W/T 1739B/8).
Convoy E.C.	Fighters have been sent to assist Convoy 'Usage', 'Sinclair'. (Lyness 2222B/8).
Convoy.	Am being attacked by enemy aircraft - Convoy 'Funnel' position 56° 15' N. 2° 23' W. (BROKE 2355/8).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Thames Esturary. At about 0004 an aircraft dropped two objects at least one of which exploded in about 2 miles 180° from the Medway Gate. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1257/8). 1 S.A. and 4 Magnetic mines detonated on 7/8 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1351/8).

ACHATES (Mined 25/7) ACHATES in tow ASSURANCE and ANTELOPE sailed Seidis Fiord at 2230Z/7. (A.C.I.C. 1509/8).

4 S.A. Mines and 3 magnetic mines detonated on 7/8 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1549/8).

Operation P.W.17. Intend carrying out Operation P.W.17 tonight. (C. in C. Nore 1716B/8).
Departure M.T.B's 44 and 45. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2137B/8).

Dover Area. Proposed postponement of laying. A.L.T.O. 5870/41 of 27th July. In view of A.M. 1355/6/8 as well as the damage that is likely to follow enforced dropping of anchors by vessels to avoid accident during Autumn and Winter gales, it is proposed that mines and their tails should not at present be laid. If this is approved work on shore would be completed and the remainder of the operation could be carried out in less than a week, the material being held available at Dover. (V.A.Dover 2017B/8).

Enemy Intelligence.

Supplies to Kirkenes. There are B.2 indications that M/V's leave singly from Kattegat and South West Norwegian ports taking supplies to Kirkenes, and calling at Banak en route.
Details of times of sailing and routes are not known, but the traffic appears to average at least one ship per day. (D.D.I.C. 1236B/8 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno and 1237B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

German Naval Units.
(A) ADMIRAL SCHEER sighted proceeding Northwards from Holtenau July 31st. B.2.
(B) Pocket Battleship at anchorage off Friedrichsort well camouflaged surrounded by treble row of buoys on 4/8. B.2.
(C) Large warship believed battleship reported Swedish vessel in Great Belt. off Langeland during night 5/6. Course unstated. C.3.
(D) LEIPZIG at Travemunde 4/8. B.2.
(E) Large aircraft carrier at Stettin end of July. B.2. (N.A.Stockholm 1859/8).

/D.D.I.C.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

German Naval Units - Contd.

D.D.I.C. Comment.
Para. (A) and (B) both probably refer to ADMIRAL SCHEER who may well have been in Kiel Bay at stated.
Para. (C), if true, is thought to refer to one of the old Battleships, probably the SCHLESIEN.
Para. (D) is probably correct.
Para. (E) - the aircraft Carrier was reported at Stettin on 15th July.

A/C at Spitsbergen.

Soviet authorities questioned me whether we had any information of Spitsbergen. Negative reply. They stated reason to believe German A/C based Spitzbergen and carrying R/C from there. No information of any troops based there. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2325C/8).

Casualties and Defects.

Submarine B.1.

At 0835/8 an explosion occurred in B one involving Battery and Ammunition. Fire is out. Anticipate considerable delay in completion. Casualties. (Capt. S.6 1055B/8).

Convoy F.S. 59. Grounded 6/8.

Request you convey my congratulations to VIMIERA, PUFFIN, BASSETT and the life boats from Cromer, Gorleston, Lowestoft, and Sheringham on their rescue work. (C. in C. Nore 1454B/8 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, Harwich and C. in C. Rosyth).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 140.

Has arrived safely with 76 ships under Rear-Adm. F.B. Watson, including 26 Allied, 2 neutral, 23 tankers, Cargoes. (D.S. 703).

Operation DERVISH. Special Convoy.

Ships will complete loading as follows:-
At Liverpool, 520 R.A.F. personnel LLANSTEPHEN CASTLE on 11/8. At Workington, Stores, LANCASTRIA PRINCE on 12/8. At Ellesmere Port, Stores, NEW WESTMINSTER CITY on 12/8. At Swansea, Stores, ESNEH, ALCHIBA, and TREHATA on 11/8. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for ships to be sailed as a special convoy to Scapa when loading is complete and provide escort as requisite. (D.O.D.(H) 0019B/8 to C. in C. W.A).

/Admty.....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Operation DERVISH Special Convoy. Contd.

Admty 0019B/8. F.O.I.C. Belfast to sail one A.A. ship to Swansea, One A.S. Trawler to Liverpool, One A.S. Trawler to Workington as necessary. F.O.I.C. Cardiff to arrange R/V for (A) Liverpool portion (B) Workington portion. All escorts to proceed to Scapa with convoy thence return to base. (C. in C. W.A., 2210B/8 to F.O.I.C.'s Belfast etc).
Your 0019B/8. Request convoy may be sailed direct to Hvalfjord. Home fleet escort will meet convoy in vicinity of Oversay Light and relieve Western Approaches Escort. (C. in C. H.F. 2223B/8 to Admty).
Cancelled (C. in C. H.F., 0934B/9).

Ocean Convoys, Abbreviations.

Ref. A.M. 0019B/15/7.
O.N.(S) - add "and South Atlantic Ports".
O.G. - delete "including sections for South Atlantic Ports". (D.T.D., 1252B/8 to H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C.)

W.S. Convoys.

Ships for W.S. Convoys sailing from Bristol Channel ports should have their routes prepared by N.C.S.O. Milford Haven who will send such routes together with Shipcon Tables by hand of Officer to port at which conference is to be held, the N.C.S.O. at such port being responsible that routeing instructions are clearly understood by Masters. This arrangement is to be brought into force forthwith and ships of W.S.10 X are to be so routed. Admty 1816B/6 has been passed to F.O.I.C. and N.C.S.O. Milford Haven. (D.T.D., 1259/8 to F.O.I.C.'s Cardiff, etc).

Reports of Enemy Positions.

Ref. A.M.S.I. 347 and Mersigs Vol. I Art 33 (c) in course of distribution, Masters are to be informed that ship in convoy making an enemy report or a distress message is not to state her geographical position but should indicate whereabouts of the enemy for information of the escort by means of a bearing and distance from herself in the manner laid down in the International Code Vol. I Art 59 using her International Visual signal letters to denote herself. (D.T.D. 1338B/8 to A.I.O. 44 etc).

W.S.10 X.

Your 1816/6 and C. in C. S.A.'s 1135N/7. If DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to be included in Convoy W.S.10 X suggest speed of convoy be not more than 14 knots. (N.O.I.C. Belfast, 1555/B/8 to Admty).

O.G. and O.S. Convoys.

Orders for Escort Groups (C. in C. W.A., 2215B/8)
See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

FAULKNOR, defects.

Your 1731B/7. Approved.
(V.C.N.S., 0018B/8 to S.O. Force H).
Ref. 1731B/7 from S.O. Force H and your 0018/8. Intend sailing FAULKNOR as escort for H.G.70 to prudent limit of endurance. Request destination in U.K. may be signalled. (F.O.C.N.A., 1352B/8 to Admty).

RENOWN destroyers.

Departure RENOWN, COSSACK, SIKH, LIGHTNING, MAORI, on passage for Clyde (route)
(F.O.C.N.A., 0302B/8 to Admty),

S/Ms Escorting Convoys.

A.L. M.O. 4446/40 of 29/3/40 does not allow submarines escorting convoys to take any action in the event of submarine attack. After experience of O.G.69, I consider (A) escorting submarine could be used with advantage to carry out sweeps proposed in my 1006/12/6 and 1036/19/6, trails having proved satisfactory.
(B) When scale of submarine attack is large escorting submarines stationed on beam of Commodore, ship is in grave risk of being torpedoed.
Intend therefore to authorise S.O. Escort
(A) to utilise escorting submarine for sweeps when conditions justify this,
(B) to detach escorting submarine from convoy if torpedo menace is serious.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1204B/8 to Admty).

Portuguese President.

Your 2232B/7 President's ship should cross Lisbon Bar 1800/11 (N.A. Lisbon, 1608/8).

MANCHESTER, FIREDRAKE.

Cdre. Supt. Gibraltar's 1632B/2. Important to send MANCHESTER and FIREDRAKE to America as soon as possible. One shaft only for MANCHESTER can be accepted for passage. Request earliest date these vessels can be made seaworthy to proceed by stages to America using fair weather route.
(Controler 1806B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

810, 812 Sqdn.

Present intention is that 812 Sqdn. will relieve 810 Sqdn. at end of August. 812 Sqdn. will be brought up to I.E. of 12 by absorbing 3 aircraft and crews of 810 Sqdn., personnel being adjusted by ARK ROYAL in accordance with A.F.O. 1021/41 810 Sqdn. will return to U.K. for leave and probable re-equipping. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1957B/8 to S.O. Force H).

/WIVERN.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

WIVERN defect. — Have a developing defect in condenser and auxiliary machinery producing high oil consumption necessitating being towed. My P.C. and S. are at 2100Z, 032° 49' N., 010° 14' W., 049° 11 knots. (WIVERN, 2000Z/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

LUMINARY. — My 0858/7. Admty have been asked to obtain permission of Govt. of Portugal for visit B.D.V. LUMINARY to Beira. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0853Z/8 to C. S.A. Beira).

PETER KERR. — Overdue Shipping. U.S. PETER KERR due Capetown 5/8 from Trinidad not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1010B /8 to Admty etc).

D'ENTRECASTEAUX. — Report on French personnel in accordance with A.M. 2217/28/6., is being telegraphed to Dominions Office by High Commissioner, Pretoria. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1309B/8 to Admty).

NORDERNEY, (German). — In the event of other Axis shipping leaving S. American ports at the same time as NORDERNEY, NORDERNEY is to be regarded as the most important. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1437B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Convoy W.S. 10 X. — Your 2336/1/8 DUNEDIN and EAGLE will be made available but should fuel at St. Helena on the way. This will necessitate the convoy taking the route and DUNEDIN and EAGLE being away from convoy for about 12 to 16 hours. CILICIA will meet NIGERIAN BRIGADE about St. Helena. (C. in C. S.A., 1723N/8 to Admty).

O.S. and S.L. Convoys. — Your 0127N/6, concur. Amendment No. 30 to A.M. 0001/1/5 implements intentions. Ships for the Cape in O.S. 2 are being instructed to remain in convoy to Freetown. (D.T.D., 1737B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

/Troop .....

FOREION STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Troop Transport.	Durban to Suez. Reply to P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1656/5. (D.S.T., 1803B/8 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown) See Lion Copy.
Chilean pilot ASAKA MARU.	My 2143Z/6. Chilean pilot has arrived Montevideo. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1903Z/8 to S.O.(I) Freetown).
M.L.'s	26th M.L. Flotilla has been allocated to S.A. Command. To make the passage in fair weather it is intended to make similar arrangements for sailing the Flotilla to Freetown as for 17th Flotilla, leaving Londonderry about 8/9. M.L. crews live on board and the only extra shore accommodation required for this Flotilla will be for 1 spare crew and Flotilla Maintenance Staff consisting of 2 Officers and 14 ratings. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2111B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)
ADVANCE.	My 1507/7. Santos reports proposed voyage of Finnish ship ADVANCE has been temporarily abandoned. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2217Z/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)
ALBATROSS.	When ready for service and fitted with catapult ALBATROSS is to be employed S.A.St. Suggested she should sail in company with convoys to destroy or keep down shadowing U-boats. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2347B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

CAPO ARMA, BALCIC, ALBA JULIA.	Press reports state Italian CAPO ARMA and Roumanian BALCIC sank by a British S/M, and Roumanian ALBA JULIA torpedoed and badly damaged. These 3 ships left Istanbul on 2/8 for Trieste. No official confirmation of their having been attacked. (D.S., 703).
R.D.F.	Provision in Middle East and Iraq. For C.O.S. in reply to C.C.S. 1511. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 0728/8 to Air Ministry) See Lion Copy.

/Suez Raid.....

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid 6-7/8.

Raid on Suez night 6/7 made by about 14 enemy A/C which dropped bombs and mines. Egyptian casualties. Damage to oil refinery slight. No damage to shipping.

Bardia, Derna, bombed.

Night 6/7. 2 Marylands 1 Blenheim 5 F.A.A. Albacores bombed Bardia, bombs falling among barracks buildings and officers quarters. 1 Wellington bombed Derna. (-H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1037/8).

AMRA.

Egyptian AMRA reports 2 torpedoes fired at her by plane in 028° 21' N., during raid of 6th/7th/8. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1119C/8 to Admty etc).

Alexandria Raid.

Air raid 2230 to 2350/7. Weather clear, full moon About 20 aircraft. Shallow diving and medium level bombing. 50 to 60 H.E. bombs over wide area including 30 in harbour and entrance area. Slight hull damage to S.S. MAHOUT* from near miss. Five of crew wounded by splinters. No other Naval or R.A.F. damage or casualties. Slight damage to 49 Quay. 2 soldiers wounded. Civil damage and casualties. One JU 88 crashed S.W. Lake Maryut 2 prisoners 2 killed. Defence was gunfire searchlight with dispersed beam and smoke. One illumination. No accurate bombing achieved but smoke hampered bomb spotting. No evidence of mines. (R.A. Alexandria, 1215/8 to Admty) *MAHOUT, British, 7921 tons, bound from Liverpool to Turkey and Calcutta with Government stores. (D.S. 704).

HERO.

If no further orders are recieved do not proceed beyond Mersa Matruh. Turn to (?eastwards) on arrival there, turning again to be off Mersa Matru at 2000/8; then return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 1220C/8 to HERO).

Famagusta Raid.

About 3 machines passed over Famagusta at 2015/7 No flares. About 9 H.E.'s probably 100 Kg. and 3 large incendiaries dropped in harbour area. A Tug (Alternative "Neutral") AMIRAL LACAZE sunk. No naval casualties. One railway siding and some dock buildings damaged. War effort unaffected. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1231C/8 to Admty etc).

/TRIUMPH.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TRIUMPH, TORBAY. Request you will sail TRIUMPH P.M./11 for patrol in Gulf of Sirte in Area C south of 32° 45' and east of 15° E., TORBAY has been ordered to leave that Area P.M./14 TRIUMPH is to keep west of 18° until 2359/14. (Capt. S.1., 13420/8 to S.O.(S) Malta).

SYDNEY STAR. Recommending Capt. E.T. Horn for decoration for services after torpedoed by E/Boat. (Govr. Malta 1515B/8 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

French Ships in Turkey. Admty 1350/6. (?Concur) with proposals. (C. in C. Med., 14360/8 to N.A. Angora).

Vichy Convoys. My 11180/30. Following Vichy convoy sails repatriation troops from Syria.
Convoy A, speed 12 knots, CHAMPOLLION, MARIETTE PACHA, EXPLORATEUR GRANDIDIER, leaves Toulon 0600/9 (route), to arrive Beirut A.M./15.
Convoy B, speed 11 knots, FLORIDA, PROVIDENCE, MARECHAL LYAUTEY, leaves Toulon at dawn/13 (route). to arrive Beirut 20/8. Both convoys instructed to pass Messina as near 1200B as possible.
Convoys C and D are being ordered to arrive Beirut 27/8 and 30/8 respectively, 3 ships each.
(C. in C. Med., 16000/8 to Med., Fleet).

Turkey. Re staff talks. (W.O., 2045/8) See Lion Copy.

Malta Raid. Night 7/8 3 raiders dropped bombs. No casualties or damage.

Tripoli bombed. 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 0155/7 to 0350/7. 2,880 lbs incendiaries and 15,000 lbs H.E. bombs were dropped. Incendiaries started two fires. All bombs fell on dock area. Day 8/8 2 500 lbs bombs dropped, on Tripoli, exploded on corner of harbour.
(H.Q. Malta, 2101/8).

Situation report 111. Western Desert. Supply to Tobruk continuing. No report of enemy supply ships.
(C. in C. Med., 21160/8).

OTTO LEONHARDT, SULLBERG. German OTTO ALONHARDT (?LEONHARDT) loading with 6,000 tons Iron ore in Sagunti. E. to A. Valencia 8/8 to take provisions. Thereafter to proceed to Savona. German SULLBERG E. to A. Valencia at any time proceeding to Sagunti to complete loading with Iron ore thereafter proceeding to probably Genoa. 0014.
(Valencia, 2227/8 to Fairmiss).

/Cyprus.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Cyprus. Report for period 27/7 to 7/8 Air Raids, etc. (Govr. Cyprus, No. T.O.O./8 to S. of S. for Colonies).

East Indies.

Cargo carriers for Tobruk. Absence of small fast cargo carriers for for Tobruk is causing great anxiety. Could any ships taken up for R.I.N. with speed not less than 15 knots and of displacement up to 3,000 tons be spared? need is urgent. Maintenance of blockade at Jibuti prevents release of CHANDINA or CHANTALA. (C. in C. E.I., 0616Z/8 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

CARTHAGE RANCHI. Durban arrivals CARTHAGE departure RANCHI in accordance with C. in C. E.I. 0746Z/7. (N.L.O. Durban, 0713Z/8 to Admty etc).

Mine-watching. In Shatt-el-Arab. (C. in C. E.I., 0746Z/8 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Shipping. Your 1847/1 para. 2. Confirmed return convoys Singapore Colombo will be run. Para. 5 no (?standing) proposal. Para.7, Commodore available Colombo Singapore run. (C. in C. EI. 0956Z/8 to Admty).

Personnel for U.K. Your 1450/6. I anticipate that an escort could be made available about 20/8. I do not concur that passage should be made unescorted. (C. in C . E.I., 1036Z/8 to C. in C. Med).

Kilindini. Harbour Authorities contemplate construction of another deep water berth meet increased naval and civil needs. (C. in C. E.I., 1400Z/8).

S.S. LIMA. Ashore on Shab Rumi Reef 019° 56' N., 037° 24' E., -hope to refloat. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1905Z/8 to Admty etc).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Indo-China. My 2344/2. If situation is sufficiently clear request your general views on future of Decoux agreement in light of Japanese occupation. -(Head of M. 2159B/8 to C. in C. China.)

Far East. Re Headquarters Staff in war. (C. in C. Far East, 2308/8 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

FORT LAMY CARADOC. Your 1930/7 repeated to FQK No. 3714. Following for Ambassador. Efforts of local Immigration Authorities appreciated but ships have now been held up for some considerable time and matter is urgent. (2) At request of Admiral Commanding F.N.F.L., M. Des Gautries, Free French Representative in Trinidad, has embarked in CARADOC and has instructions to endeavour to settle difficulty with crew of FORT LAMY. Propose therefore that CARADOC's programme should be adhered to but M. Des. Gautries visit should be given as reason for call at St. Thomas. CARADOC is visiting St. Lucia on the way? and should reach St. Thomas 11/8 (C. in C. A.W.I., 1201Q/8 to N.A. Washington).

Neutrals visiting Bermuda. Your 1359/6. Masters of both GUINE and NYASSA received instructions at Lisbon to call Bermuda. It was presumed that British Authorities there were aware of these instructions. (2) Passengers in both ships thoroughly examined and found harmless. Both ships had ships Navicerts and cargoes were in order. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1208B/8 to Admty).

Japanese shipping. My 1751R/7. S.O.I. Callao reports the three ships expected are AMAGISAN MARU, KIYOSUMI MARU last reported sailed: 20th 21st July respectively. KIRISHIMA MARU sailed Rio de Janeiro 5/8. Report from B.N.A. Santiago de Chile now suggests little prospect obtaining bunkers Valparaiso. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1226R/8 to Admty etc). My 1451R/7 (?1751R) YAMAZUKI MARU cleared for Kobe, no bunkers taken Santos. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1231R/8 to Admty etc).

/RESOLUTION.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RESOLUTION. Proposed programme for working up at Bermuda extends over 17 days. In view of operational requirements is this concurred in?. (B.A.R.M., 1324R/8 to Admty).

S/Ms. R.A. 3rd B.S. 1225P/6. Prefer submarines to go to FORTH to ensure their being brought up to date with S/M intelligence and F.O.(S) memoranda and for final adjustments. Understood that Halifax has not got S/M repair personnel. One submarine only at a time is concerned. (B.A.R.M., 1326R/8 to F.O.S.)

U.S. Ships, Iceland. U.S.N.A. reports Iceland ships KATLA and GODAFOSS depart Iceland 8/8, KATLA to Halifax GODAFOSS to New York probably via Louisberg. Vessels are escorted by two U.S. destroyers tank unit 114. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1532Z/8 to C.O.A.C., C.C.N.F.)

Canadian corvettes. Following is a repetition of my 1959Z/7 (Indecypherable). Re conversations between D.C.N.S., Canada and D.A/S.W. Admiralty. Intend keeping up to three Corvettes under training at WESTERN ISLES. Request information (1) How many R.C.N. Corvettes WESTERN ISLES can accommodate (2) Date on which first Corvettes should arrive. (3) Length of time required at WESTERN ISLES. 1959Z/7 (Ends). (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1344/Z/8 to Admty).

DNEPROSTROI U.S.S.R. Admty 1319B/26/7. DNEPROSTROI routed to Comox has not arrived. Vessel had 46 days bunkers on sailing San Pedro noon/26 and assume she has proceeded Vladivostok direct without routing instructions. Request you inform Singapore. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1603Z/8 to C. in C. China).

S/Ms Refits. No submarine will follow TRUANT in refitting programme until PARTHIAN, due 15/9. (D.O.D. (F) 1730B/8 to B.A.R.M.)

S/M working up period. B.S.3's 1225P/6. Opposed to these submarines working up at St. Johns N.F., and even more opposed to Halifax. Absence of a depot ship and shore facilities and accomodation render Halifax most unsuitable for S/Ms. If arrangemnets can be made for these S/Ms to work up at an American Base, torpedoes to complete them to full stowage could be sent from Halifax. (F.O.S., 1751B/8 to Admty).

/Passages.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Passages from Bermuda. Your 10529/6. Concur until position has been rectified. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1823B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

LE TRIOMPHANT. A.T. 2344B/23/7. Permission has been obtained from Mexican Govt. for F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT to call at Acapulco for oil fuel if necessary. C. in C. A.W.I., requested to arrange for H.M. Consul in Mexico City to be informed whether or no ship will call and, if so, date of arrival.
2. State Dept. have been informed of the need to refuel at Colon and/or Balboa, San Diego and Honolulu. Arrangements have been made to supply from Commerical Stocks at San Diego and Honolulu.
3. N.A. Washington is requested to confirm that supplies from U.S. Navy Stocks will be available in Panama Canal area. Failing this it will be necessary for the ship to bunker at Jamaica and in Mexico. (D.O.D. (F) 1851B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.A. Washington).

LACONIA, MALOJA, CALIFORNIA. LACONIA has damaged starboard propeller through striking submerged object whilst at St. John N.B. necessitating redocking for approx. 24 hours. Dock will be available Thursday 14 /8. Intend sailing MALOJA as escort to H.X.144 and bringing CALIFORNIA back from Sydney to act as escort to H.X. 145. No ocean escort will now be available for S.C.40. (R.A. 3 2153P/8 to Admty).

CHITRAL. My 1359/31 and C. in C. A.W.I., 1813Q/5. Proceed Halifax instead of to St. John N.B. (R.A. 3 B.S. 2155P/8 to CHITRAL).

RAKUYO MARU. My 1751R/7 RAKUYO MARU sailed Valparaiso 8/8 for Los Vilos Chile. Callao reports will receive 500 tons fuel oil at Zorrites Peru. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2308B/8 to Admty etc).

EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. Ref. S.S.T.O. Capetown 1414Z/30/7 St. Thomas repor water required not available and impossible bunker fuel owing to ships draught. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2331R/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Troopships Bermuda. In view of the constant necessity of avoiding all possible delay to troop transports these ships should not be diverted to Bermuda without Admty. sanction. (D.T.D. 2338B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Australia.

U.S.11.B. Sailed 0200Z/8th Route Escort CANBERRA. (D.N.O. WAustralia 0302Z/8 to Admty etc).

War Diary. 8.8.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE RODNEY. (torpedoed 5/8.)

ZINNIA reports CAPE RODNEY in tow. 2000B/7 approx., 52° 18' N., 14° 28' W., course 048° speed 3 knots.
(C. in C.W.A., 0040B/8 to NORTHERN GEM.)
Return to Londonderry for boiler cleaning.
(C. in C. W.A., 1032B/8, to ZINNIA.)
Your 1032B. Am returning to Londonderry now. Steaming party taken off assemble as in my 1100B to Aircraft. NORTHERN GEM reports 50 tons coal remaining balance of fuel poor and will(?last) 3 days. ZWARTE ZEE has decided to make for Shannon. Consider salvage still hopeful. (ZINNIA, 1300B/8, to C. in C.W.A.)
ZWARTE ZEE has informed me that he is(?)ships to River Shannon. I have only fuel enough aboard to reach Londonderry. Request instructions. (NORTHERN GEM 1330B/8 to C. in C.W.A.)
Noon position approx., 053° 02' N., 013° 14' W. CAPE RODNEY making water rapidly in No.1 hold, so at 1300 B altering to 105° speed 3 knots in attempt to reach Shannon to beach her. If successful will stand by until relieved or until further instructions are received.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 1600B/8, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
Detail one Destroyer to proceed forthwith to relieve NORTHERN GEM escorting ZWARTE ZEE who is towing CAPE RODNEY to Shannon. Position at 1500B/8, 53° 00' N., 13° 00' W. Speed about 3 knots. NORTHERN GEM to return to Base on relief. N.O.i/c Londonderry is requested to sail VIZALMA forthwith to relieve the Destroyer detailed who is to return to Base on relief.
(C. in C.W.A., 1948B/8 to GURKHA, N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)
Sailed VIZALMA in accordance with C. in C.W.A. 1948B/8.
(Capt. D., Londonderry, 2205B/8, to C. in C.W.A.)
My 1948B/8, destination Shannon, course 105° speed 3 knots.
(C. in C.W.A., 2329B/8 to GURKHA.)

SHAHRISTAN (torpedoed 29/7.)

My 1221/7. 76 survivors SHAHRISTAN arrived at Ponta Delgada. 36 landed from CAMPERO and 40 reached land in ships' boats. Details.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1535/8, to Admty.,etc.)

/ROBERT MAX...

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 8.8.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked Contd.

ROBERT MAX. (sunk 4/8.) Total crew numbering 6 of ROBERT MAX arrived Ponta Delgada. Ship sunk by gunfire of German submarine 1900 G.M.T./4 in 036° 47' N., 021° 15' W.
(N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada. 1822/8, to Admty.)
Newfoundland fishing schooner, 172 tons, position about 200 miles E., of Santa Maria, Azores. (D.S.703.)

NIKOKLIS (torpedoed 14/7.) 13 Survivors of NIKOKLIS including Chief Engineer, Second Officer, and Third Engineer, brought here from Cape Juby by local Spanish Steamer yesterday. As far as can be ascertained ship was torpedoed 2115/14 about 105 miles S.W. of Azores. 2 torpedoes fired, 1 entering Engine room and the other No. 2 hold. 6 men placed in British Hospital. Wireless Operator and ship's Cook died before reaching land.

(British Consul Las Palmas 1300/8.)

Submarines Reported.

Unknown ship has reported sighting a conning tower in 43° 40' N., 32° W., at 2040Z/7.
(D.D.I.C. 0225B/8, to LONDON.)
W.D.Note. - LONDON escorting W.S.10.

0001/7. A.C.I.C. 1605/7. Report details concerning U-Boat reported in Vidfiord, and action taken.
(C. in C. H.F., 0943B/8, to HARRIER.)
Your 0943 B/8 report classified C.5. Search without result. Reason for classification A.2 being investigated.
(HARRIER; 2200A/8, to C. in C.H.F.)

1158. Am over enemy S/M in 57.02 N., 13.38 W.
(A/C duty Q (Training), 1158/8.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1441B/8.)

1824. German S/M bearing 278/2 at 1824 G.M.T. and
1839 German S/M bearing 280/2 at 1839 G.M.T.
G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 2005B/8 to N.A. Stn.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.8.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C 1210. — Enemy S/M periscope sighted 57.02 N., 13.38 W. 295°, 4 knots, 4 depth charges dropped. (A/C, 1210/8, to Aldergrove R.A.F.)

By A/C 1635. — Am investigating suspicious oil patch in 56.54 N., 13.04 W. (A/C, duty B, 1635/8, to 15 Group H.Q.) My 1635, oil moving one L knots, one Bomb dropped. (A/C duty B 1825/8, to 15 Group H.Q.)

By WANDERER etc, 3/8. — Preliminary report of attacks. (Capt. D., Liverpool 1930B/8 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.G.B. patrol. Three M.G.B.'s from Harwich patrolled last night to eastward of Gap E.

Suspected raider sighted. A civil A/C on passage from Lisbon to U.K. reported a 5,000 ton M/V painted grey with 3 guns steaming West at 16 knots some 250 miles West of Brest at 1426 today; and WISHART has been ordered to try to intercept her. Air search was also arranged.

At 1705 three vessels like M class Minesweepers passed Gris Nez westward at 15 knots andwere later reported to have entered Boulogne.

S/Ms escorting convoys. F.O.S. considers that in view of the risks to S/Ms escorting Convoys their employment as Convoy Escorts should be discontinued.

Operation E.F.V.2. It is reported from Moscow that, after our recent air attack in the Petsamo area, Murmansk was not bombed for 48 hours and most of the German A/A artillery was brought from the Northern front into that area.

M.G.B.62 sunk. Whilst engaged on anti-E-boat patrol M.G.B.62 was sunk in collision with M.G.B.67 in the North Sea today. M.G.B.67 was damaged.

British Air Activity.

88 aircraft last night attacked targets at Kiel and 30 at Hamburg.

A Beaufort of Coastal Command last night attacked two small merchantmen 20 miles N.E. of Alsboen light and reports at least one hit.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

S.S. DAGNY I sunk.	The Norwegian DAGNY I, 1392 tons which left Kirkwall at 1105 B today escorted by the A/S Trawler WASTWATER after being intercepted in Northern waters was bombed and set on fire at 1500B. when 25 miles 142° from Nolso and sank later.
S.S. ZOUAVE damaged.	Convoy E.C.57 was attacked at 1744B off the Tyne; S.S. ZOUAVE, which was proceeding to join the convoy sustained minor damage from M.G. fire.
Convoy F.N.3.	Convoy F.N. 3 was bombed off Cromer from 2219 to 2327. S.S. CORDENE was sunk and GLENDALOUGH was badly damaged and was towed to Lowestoft.
WITHERNSEA.	H.M.T. WITHERNSEA was attacked by a Heinkel III at 2300 today near H.3 Buoy and brought down the enemy aircraft.

Mining.

P.W.17	M.T.B.'s 44 and 45 carried out this operation last night.
A/C minelaying.	6 Hampdens last night laid mines off various parts of N.W. Germany and Denmark.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya & Western Desert.

The question of supply is again dealt with today in a message by C. in C. Med.,

Tripoli, Benghazi and Derna ports were bombed last night.

Destroyers.

C. in C. Med., today sent a message to the Admiralty, dealing with the question of destroyers.

Suez Canal.

There were two air raids on the Canal area last night. No mines were laid and naval damage was very slight, though the dock at Port Tewfik will be out of action for 2 days, to clear debris.

Air attack on Corinth Canal.

33 Wellingtons attacked the Corinth Canal last night with bombs, and also laid mines.

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Staff at Hvalfiord.

Your 1912B/25 and my 1137Z/30. Will require 10 additional R.N.R. Officers to act as Admiralty pilots for Hvalfiord (? and for) handling oilers if 12 tankers are to arrive simultaneously. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0951/9)

Swedish M/V's.

Stop my 1109/8. Positions of Westbound vessels at 0001/9 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm, 1053/9)
Your 1807/31/7. Routeing is responsibility of Admiralty and steps have been taken to avoid confusion in the future. Swedish Authorities in London and M.E.W. are being informed that for future sailings Admiralty requirement of single westbound sailings still stands.
(D.O.D. H. 1113B/9 to N.A. Stockholm)

VIVIEN

Your 1647B/20/7. It is intended to sail VIVIEN to join command of C. in C. Rosyth on completion of her refit about 15/8.
-(C. in C. W.A. 1455B/9.)

Submarines as Convoy Escorts. Proposed discontinuance.

F.O.C.N.A's 1204B/8.
A. A friendly submarine in a convoy being attacked by a concentration of U-Boats is exposed to considerable risk from torpedo fire. If detached at the time when the attack is developing she is not only exposed to a grave risk of attack by the convoy escorts but in addition her presence can only serve to hamper the operations of the escorts.
The experience of O.14 in company with H.X. 79 provided ample confirmation of this and up till now every effort has been made to avoid having submarines in company with ocean convoys while the close escorts are present.
Now that concentrated U-Boat attack may be expected on H.G. and O.G. convoys and while the scale of A/S escort provided for these convoys is constantly increasing, it is for urgent consideration that the submarine escort be discontinued for the above reasons.
If, however these duties are to be continued by submarines, in my opinion the submarine must either be completely detached from the convoy as soon as a concentrated attack is expected and before it develops or alternatively she must remain in close company with the convoy and accept the risk from enemy torpedoes.

/B.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Submarines as Convoy Escorts. Proposed discontinuance. -Contd.

There are now ample opportunities for submarines in the Western Mediterranean where targets abound and opposition is slight. It is suggested therefore that the Netherlands submarines should be fully employed in this area, that the River Class should be employed on operational patrols in the Atlantic, and that OLYMPUS when repaired should continue on transport duties or operational duties where A/S activity is not expected to be strong. (F.O.S. 1457B/9)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

LE TRIOMPHANT

Your 1851B/8 and my 1650/5 to C. in C. A. & W.I. Dates at which LE TRIOMPHANT will (? touch) at United States ports are still required by Navy Dept. Fuel can be supplied in canal zone but U.S. Authorities would prefer that ship should bunker elsewhere.
(N.A. Washington 0931R/9)

Movements

PENELOPE
WESTMINSTER
CATTISTOCK.

Escorted by WESTMINSTER and CATTISTOCK sailed for Rosyth. E.T.A. 1345. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0900/9)
Part company at No. 1. reflector buoy, Forth, and proceed independently at 20 knots to overtake F.S. 63 operating S.A. gear on passage On joining act as additional escort until ordered to part company by C. in C. Nore.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1315/9 to CATTISTOCK)

ADVENTURE

Proceed to Port Z.A. (C. in C. H.F. 1046B/9 to ADVENTURE)

DAGNY I
WASTWATER

Sailed Kirkwall SS DAGNY I escorted by WASTWATER. DAGNY I passengers and Crew not examined here. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1105B/9)

KATLA
GODAFOSS

Request information whether Icelandic ships KATLA and GADAFOSS with American escort sailed from Iceland on 8/8.
Request such movements may be signalled to Admiralty and all Authorities affected.
(A.C.N.S. H. 1906B/9 to A.C.I.C.)

RENOWN

Your 2221B/8 and F.O.C.N.A. 0302B/8. Request you arrange R/V with C. in C. W.A.
(D.O.D. H. 1907B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

/F.O.C.N.A.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

RENOWN -Contd.

F.O.C.N.A. 0302B/8. Onward route as follows. After escort from Scapa have met in position (H) at 1600Z/12 MAORI, COSSACK,(?SIKH) and LIGHTNING are to escort PASTEUR to Clyde fuelling Londonderry if necessary. RENOWN and escort to proceed to Scapa passing through following positions. (C. in C. W.A. 1949B/9 to RENOWN)

Operations

Attack on Petsamo.

From Admiral Miles. Rear Admiral Alafuzov D.C.N.S. told me today that after our air attack on Petsamo area Murmansk was not bombed for 48 hours also most of the German A.A. artillery had been withdrawn from the Northern front and installed round Petsamo and Kirkenes. He had no other intelligence of results. As the approaches to Petsamo are covered by Russian shore batteries on Ribachi it is unlikely that shipping will be found there. (Moscow 1738C/9)

Operation "Grab"

Intend resume operation "Grab a.m./10. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2053B/9)

British Air Activity

Patrols

My 2306/8. Nothing sighted by STAB. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0218/9.)
TROST, STAB and BERT are being flown to reach Norwegian coast about noon. (C. in C. Rosyth 1036/9)
P.R.U. Oslo, Kristiansand now flying. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1116/9)
Voe C. in operation until further notice. (C. in C. Rosyth 1912/9)
Voe C discontinued until first light tomorrow. (C. in C. Rosyth 2130/9)

A/C for FURIOUS

My 1958/8. Code name is "Scarlet" (D.N.A.D. 1052B/9)

Bombing Operations.

During day 8/8, 25 A/C bombed Hamburg and 74 A/C bombed Kiel causing very large fires. On night 8/9 there were no operations owing to the weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1625/9)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Myggenaes Lighthouse and JOHN DONOVAN (Trawler) attacked.

Enemy aircraft machine gunned Myggenaes lighthouse at 1510/8 causing no damage; and at 1445 bombed JOHN DONOVAN on passage South East of Sydero causing slight damage and slight casualties. Ship being repaired locally. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1016B/9)

DAGNY I (Norwegian, 1392 tons) bombed

DAGNY I bombed. 25 miles 142° Nolso. (WASTWATER 1500B/9)
Volunteer crew aboard DAGNY I. Attempting to put out fire and tow. (LEICESTER CITY 1739B/9)
LEICESTER CITY standing by DAGNY I. Am returning Thorshavn with passengers and crew. Four crew and two passengers killed. (WASTWATER 1740/9)
Have DAGNY I in tow. Proceeding to Thorshavn. Have had to take off prize crew as she is blazing fore and aft. Tug not required. (LEICESTER CITY 1920B/9)
Unable to take Trangisvaag owing to head swell. 1945B explosion amidships on DAGNY I. My speed 3 knots. (LEICESTER CITY 2025B/9)

Convoy F.N. 3.

One A/C shadowing convoy "Attempt" position 52° 19' N., 1° 59" E. (VERSATILE 1631/9)
Enemy aircraft bombing convoy F.N. my position 53° 1' N., 1° 50' E. VERSATILE 2219/9)
A/C still bombing 2327. (VERSATILE 2328/9)

Convoy E.C. 57.

Help "Paddle" position 55° 9' N., 1° 16' W. (QUANTOCK 1744B/9)
Fighters are being sent. (Rosyth W/T 1752/9)

Mining

Thames Estuary.

My 1351/8. Amend item four to read 283° B.8. Buoy 1.5 cables. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1007/9)

A.F.D. IV.

Your 1920B/6/8. Three Oropesa trawlers only will be available in Liverpool sub Command to undertake this sweeping. They will be fitted with S.A. gear. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1544/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

/ACHATES.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7) — Cancel my 1609B/8. Intend sheltering in Faeroes. My P.C. and S 061° 42' N. 010° 42' W. 090° 6 knot. E.T.A. 1500/10. (ANTELOPE 2116B/9)

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy M/V. — Enemy warship (approx. 5000 tons) 46° 37' N., 9° 22' W., at 1255/9, CO 270° 16 kts. Civil A/C report. (19 Group 1426/9) (C. in C. Plymouth 1454/9 to WISHART)
My 1454/9. Ship reported is a merchant vessel painted battleship grey, 2 masts, squat funnel, 3 guns. Endeavour to intercept if fuel permits (C. in C. Plymouth 1646/9 to WISHART)

3 Enemy Vessels. — Three vessels similar to M. Class minesweepers were observed to pass Gris Nez Westward at 1705, speed 15 knots. (V.A. Dover 1709B/9)
My 1709B/9. These vessels are reported to have entered Boulogne. (V.A. Dover 1807B/9)

Casualties & Defects

M.G.B. 62 sunk. M.G.B. 67 damaged. — Collision between M.G.B's 62 and 67 in 52° 28' N. 3° 37' E., M.G.B. 62 lost and M.G.B. 67 severely damaged, now being slipped. Two ratings and one officer slightly injured. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1213B/9)

Hartlepool — My 1722/6. Port of Hartlepool is open to ships not more than 45 foot beam and 20 foot draft 2 hours each side of high water. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1300/9)

A/C in ARK ROYAL Suspected sabotage. — Following details of sabotage to Swordfish aircraft by sand in lubricating oil tank reported by ARK ROYAL.
My 1218B/9 refers. (S.O.Force H. 1409B/9 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

9.8.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

S.C. 38. — Arrived complete, Cdre. A.S. Mackay R.N.R. 13 British, 9 Allied ships. Cargoes (D.S. 704)

S.L. 81. — 8 British, 1 neutral, and 3 Allied ships of this convoy have arrived, Master of ABOSSO as Commodore. Cargoes. (D.S. 704)

WINDSOR CASTLE W.S. 10. — Admty. 1916/7, Para 11. WINDSOR CASTLE was also damaged in collision but is proceeding in convoy at 13 knots with No. 2. Oil Tank flooded. Not known whether she will be able to proceed beyond Freetown, but request report in due course. (D.S.T., 0329B/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

Operation "Dervish" — Cancel my 2223B/8. (Convoy to Hvalfjord) (C. in C. H.F., 0934B/9 to Admty. etc.)
My 2210B/8. Convoy will proceed direct to Hvalfiord. Home Fleet escort will relieve W.A. Escort in position 270° Oversay Light 10 miles. F.O.I.C. Cardiff report time of R/V. (C. in C. W.A. 0952B/9 to F.O.I.C's)

W.S. 10. — JUPITER arrived Ponta Delgada 1215/9. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1202/9)
Convoy W.S. 10 will R/V at position G at 1000Z/10 approach on course 187°.
(JUPITER, 1102B/9 to EDINBURGH)

W.S. 10 X DUNNOTTAR CASTLE O.S. 3. — My 1816B/6. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE cannot maintain 15 knots and will not sail with Convoy W.S. 10 X. Ship will carry valuable special stores and 182 personnel for Freetown and be ready to leave Belfast on 12/8.
(b) proceed in Convoy O.S. 3. leaving U.K. on 13/8.
(c) break off from Convoy in 43° N., and proceed independently to Freetown.
(D.O.D. (H) 1348B/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

H.X. 140
S.C. 38 — Combined convoys H.X. 140 and S.C. 38 represent largest number of ships brought to these shores as one unit. Congratulations on their safe and timely arrival. (C. in C. W.A., 1444B/9 to Adm. F.B. Watson)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

? FRANKFURT. Lifeboat with Germans 300 miles 260° Fayal reported 8/8 by Panamanian ship. Refused assistance other than provisions. Portuguese destroyer sent to investigate.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1024/9, to Admty.)
Intercept Portuguese steamer LIMA. Addressed all ships. Lifeboat with crew seen by Portuguese plane today at 1320 G.M.T., 37.58 N., 20.32 W.
(Valentia Radio, Lands End Radio, 2350/9, to Admty.)

Las Palmas. Your 1209/5 sufficient supplies of water available at Las Palmas.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1159/9, to Admty.)

Suspicious M/V. At 1255/9 A/C reports an unidentified merchant ship in 46° 37' N., 09° 22' W. Course 270° speed 15-18 knots. About 5000 tons. Painted grey. 3 guns seen.
(D.D.I.C. 1648B/9 to N.A. Stn., etc.)
(F.O.C.N.A., 1722-B/9, and 1745B/9, to N.A. Stn.)(See also Home Commands, Enemy Intelligence.)
A.M. 1648B/9. Aircraft from U.K. will, if weather permits, carry out patrol to cover probable course of ship, intends to pass N., of Azores by a crossover patrol from 0700A/10/60 miles north and south of position 45° 30' N., 16° 40' W., until 1300A/10. Requested that, if available, aircraft from Gibraltar should cover probable line of advance should ship pass to southward of Azores.
(D.S.O. 2301/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Convoy. Gibraltar 1840/8 French armed Trawler ASPIRANT BRUN French Ships MEDJERDA MAROC BELLE ISLE AZROU all laden passed Eastbound.
(S.O.I., Gib., 1743B/9 to Admty., C. in C.Med.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

MAUD.	Overdue shipping, cancel my 0947/6, MAUD arrived Cape Town. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0931B/9.)
NORDERNEY. German.	Proceeded alongside for drinking water on 8/8. (S.O.I., Freetown, 1053N/9, to Admty.) Para reports NORDERNEY left dock and steaming down river 1500 G.M.T./9. (S.O.I., Montevideo 1609Z/9 to S.A.D.) (C. in C.S.A.,1749 N/9 to PRETORIA CASTLE.) (C. in C.S.A.,1947 N/9 to S.A. Stn.) (S.O.I., Freetown, 2231 N/9 to F.O.C.N.A.) My 1510Z/9 NORDERNEY has proceeded seawards. Should clear river at 2200 G.M.T. (R.O., Para, 1720Z/9 to S.O.I's Freetown etc.) (S.O.I., Montevideo 1807Z/9 to S.A.D.)
P.L.M.	Aircraft report P.L.M. sinking in 018° 06' N., 021° 17' W., at time unknown. This was in same signal reporting LONDONDERRY's E.T.A., Bathurst. No report of attack on convoy or collision. Have you any information? (C. in C. S.A., 1427N/9, to LONDONDERRY.)
PRETORIA CASTLE. NORDERNEY.	Proceed to patrol in H.32 NORDERNEY reported alongside for drinking water at Para, 8/8. If other Axis shipping leaving South America Ports at the same time as NORDERNEY, NORDERNEY is to be regarded as most important. (C. in C. S.A., 1447N/9 to PRETORIA CASTLE.)
LUMINARY Beira.	Your 1824/B/6 no objection Portuguese Authorities to this visit which must not exceed 24 hours. (N.A. Lisbon, 1751/9 to Admty.)
Free French.	Staff talks 5/8 and 6/8. (G.O.C. in C. W. Africa to W.O., 1800/9) See Lion Copy.
NIEUW ZEELAND.	My 2015/5/8 and my 1947/7. Intend two officers and sixty O/R.'s Free French reinforcements for Foreign Legion should also be embarked in NIEUW ZEELAND. (C. in C. S.A., 2015N/9 to D. of S.T.)

/BALZAC.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

BALZAC. (missing) boat found.

About 0900 G.M.T./9. Ship's life boat found ashore between Amarallina and Petuba 013° S.,038° 27' W. Name BALZAC painted out. Boat had been machine gunned apparently before launching. (Contents) Impossible to state how long boat was adrift but opinion of N.C.S.O., Bahia is not less than a week but might be much more.

(R.O. Bardia 2059Z/9 to Admty.)

W.S.9.B.) W.S.10.)

Re transport of personnel from Durban to Middle East. Arrangements. (D.S.T., 2127B/9, to P.S.T.O.Simonstown.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.

Requirements at Freetown. (D.S.T., 2223B/9 to C. in C.S.A.etc.) See Lion Copy.

Royal Party, DURBAN CASTLE.

D.S.T.O., Mombasa's 0915/8. Concur in proposed arrangements for accommodation of Royal Party in DURBAN CASTLE but suggest passengers thereby displaced who will have to be disembarked at Durban to await onward conveyance to U.K.should be selected after paying regard to circumstances of the case. Undesirable that delay and inconvenience should fall wholly on R.A.F., personnel.
(D.S.T., 2224B/9, to P.S.T.O., Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Fleet.

P.C. and S., of enemy battle fleet 5 destroyers 4 merchant vessels 2 aeroplanes 188° Pantellaria 16, 347° 12.
(A/C duty Z, 0830/9, 0844/9, to Hal Far.)
(S.O.S., Malta, 1045B/9 to O.23.)

Vichy convoy.

CHAMPOLLION, MARIETTE PACHA, EXPLORATEUR GRANDIDIER, all about 11,000 tons passing through 041° 35' 010° E., at 0700/10 for Straits of Messina. They are not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.8, 1036B/9, to S/M's O.24, O.23.)

/Alexandria.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Alexandria Raid.	Night 7/8. About 25 enemy aircraft attacked Alexandria. About 90 bombs dropped over wide area, direct hit on 1 quay but no other serious damage to harbour. 5 soldiers wounded,
U/B attacked.	civilian casualties. Day 8/8. 2 Blenheims on sea R/C attacked enemy S/M 34° 08' N., 23° 04'E. 1 bomb falling near objective.(H.Q.,R.A.F.,M.E., 1108/9.)
Bardia, Capuzzo Benghazi bombed.	Night 7/8, 2 Wellingtons 3 Marylands bombed Bardia obtaining hits on harbour buildings 1 medium ship believed hit, 1 Wellington bombed Capuzzo starting 2 fires. 1 Wellington bombed Benghazi bombs falling on bases of Central and and Cathedral moles. (H.Q. R.A.F.,M.E., 1111/9.)
OTTO LEONHARDT. German.	Arrived and sailed this afternoon 8/8. (Consul, Valencia, T.H.I., 1116/9.)
Suez Raid, 7/8.	My 1345 C/7 ref. C.A.F.O. 587, (A) 7/8 calm clear. (B) 2 raids with interval of one hour 2 - 3 and 18 - 20 planes attacking singly. Possibly JU.88 and S.79, high level and dive bombing. No illuminants bright full moon. (C) H.E. bombs and mines. (D) About 12 bombs on shipping light craft about 13 on land one U.X.M., Kilos 153.9 one U.X.M. Kilos 158.8 3 U.X.M's Suez Bay. (E) D.A. Office demolished, no other naval damage, no casualties. (F) A/A by CARLISLE and shore batteries. (G) Balloons flying at 3200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1205C/9.)
NESTOR. ENCOUNTER JUPITER HEYTHROP ERIDGE AVONDALE.	F.O. Force "H" 1107B/7. Regret that casualties to Force "H" destroyers and the subsequent defects in FAULKNOR make it necessary to retain NESTOR and ENCOUNTER temporarily at Gibraltar. Hope to arrange for replacement of Force "H" 's destroyers at a very early date when NESTOR and ENCOUNTER will continue to Mediterranean. JUPITER sailed with W.S.10. Hope that HEYTHROP will sail with W.S.10X. ERIDGE and AVONDALE should be sailed from Gibraltar via the Cape as soon as practicable. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1239B/9 to C. in C. Med.) S.O. Force H., 1107B/7. Destroyer situation and need for more. (C. in C. Med., 1249C/9 to Admty., etc.) See Lion Copy.

/PARRAMATTA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

PARRAMATTA. My 1347/9. PARRAMATTA to remain at Famagusta till A.M./15 as A/S cover for Serial 20 P and 21P then to Port Said.
(C. in C. Med., 1253C/9 to M.O.I.C. Cyprus.)

Suez Raids. Two air raids on Suez Canal area night 8/9, first by 2 or 3 aircraft, second by 11. At Port Tewfik about 20 bombs dropped round shipping and dry dock. No damage to shipping. Dock will be out of action for two days to clear debris. NUBIAN in dock undamaged and undocks P.M. today. Five near misses at Suez Refinery. At Port Said about four bombs on Salt Pan. At Ismailia slight damage to naval experimental canal nets. No mines laid. No naval casualties.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1305C/9 to Admty.etc.)

French Convoys. 2 French convoys which are not to be attacked are making passage through Mediterranean as follows. (i) from Syria vis Messina to Bizerta passing Messina about 1000B/11. (ii)from Toulon via Messina to Syria passing Messina about 1200/11. (Details.)
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1440B/9, to URGE, O.23.)

"A" Lighters. Attacks by aircraft on. Reply to Admty. 1827/4. (C. in C. Med., 1551/9 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

Catania, Tripoli bombed. 8/8, 1 of 5 Blenheims attacked M/Vs Catania harbour, 2 near misses probably damaged M/V 2,000 ton at quayside. Rest turned away owing 30 Cr. 42's patrolling vicinity. Night 8/9 excellent attack by 7 Wellingtons Tripoli from 0155 to 0317 hours. Many bombs dropped in dock area from 7,000 ft. 3 large fires with explosions and flying debris near Castello and power house visible 40 miles.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1600/9.)

Russia and Iran. 1st. S.L., 1622B/9 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., S.N.O. P.G. (See Lion Copy.)

/UNBEATEN.....

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

UNBEATEN report. UNBEATEN reports during Forenoon/30 in 36° 12' 11° 35', Northbound expected convoy passed out of sight, occasional single charge indicated that full speed was to Westward. At 1616/31 in 36° 32' 11° 49' sighted Southbound convoy. UNBEATEN closed at speed to attack and may have been sighted by Air escort, convoy altering 65° away for 20 mins., which appeared deliberate avoidance though escort detached to counter attack. At 2210/6 in 34° 56' 12° 00' sighted distant A/A fire to Northward, 3 separate explosions observed, attack appeared to last one hour. At 2300, A/A fire indicated convoy withdrawing to Northward, UNBEATEN closed at speed and 20 miles Northward found half mile area alight, some wreckage and barrels and strong smell of paraffin. Lampedusa Harbour reconnoitred twice,no favourable target. (S.O.S., Malta, 1755B/9, to Capt S.1.)

Operation "Substance" HOEGH HOOD. My 2052/25/7 Para. 15. Information just received that HOEGH HOOD of Group 3 of Convoy M.G.1, was hit by A/C Torpedoes at 1800/24. Ship arrived Gibraltar 1045/27.
(S.O. Force H., 1837/B/9 to Admty.)

Fast Cargo Ships. Importance of. (C. in C. Med., 20030/9 to Admty., for 1st. S.L.)
See Mediterranean Volume.

Enemy Ships. One large tanker E.T.A., 032° 07' 020° 04' A.M./10 and one Auxiliary Schooner may arrive same position 11th both laden with petroleum.
(Capt. S.1,23400/9 to TORBAY.)
See also 1910/11.

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S.12A, fuel. Your 0447/7. Intend easing situation by sending AQUITANIA to Colombo. Unless unforeseen circumstances arise Oilers APPLE-LEAF and PEARLEAF will then suffice for fuelling at Trincomalee.
Consider 10/9 an optimistic date if AQUITANIA is to go to New Zealand.
(C. in C. E.I., 1220Z/9 to Admty.)

S.S. LIMA (ashore) 2 tugs proceeding A.M./10 to assist.
(N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1745Z/9, to Salvage Assocn., London.)
(See his 1905Z/8.)

China.

Indo-China. Re Decoux agreement, Japan and French shipping.
(C. in C. China, 0433Z/9, to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

FUSIJAMA (Italian)
MOSEL (German) Kosichang. Departures night of 8/8.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0858Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

E-boat actions. Understand from press engagements recently took place in Malta between fixed defences hostile "E" boats and miniature submarines. Grateful for details especially as regards employment of 6 pr. A.M.T.B. equipments.
(G.O.C. Malaya, 2349/9, to Govr., Malta.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

BERGENSFJORD — Ref. N.C.S.O. Trinidad's 1036/4. BERGENSFJORD is urgently required in U.K. and should arrive not later than 20/8. To obviate necessity for including her in an H.X. Convoy on grounds of her speed of doubtful 15 knots, request very urgent report whether she can be drydocked immediately on arrival at Halifax and sailed so as to arrive Clyde by 20/8.
(D.S.T. 0435B/9 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

CIRCASSIA, ANDAVAKA collision, 9/7. — CIRCASSIA collided with and sank anchored Newfoundland fishing Schooner ANDAVAKA on 9/7 in thick fog. No loss of life or injury to crew and no damage to CIRCASSIA. Board of Inquiry finds no blame attributable.
(R.A.3, 0914/9 to Admty.)

A/C from FORMIDABLE — FORMIDABLE's 1654/8. Request you inform ship direct, undesirable that planes land on U.S.A. territory.
(B.A.R.M., 1114R/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

CARRAS, crew trouble — Your 2212Q/6. CARRAS sailed 8/8 7 Greek ring-leaders now under arrest at St. Lucia and have been replaced by 6 local British West Indian. Prosecution difficult here. Propose CARADOC takes them to Trinidad for internment of next occasion fuelling.
(CARADOC, 1150Q/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

NORDERNEY (German) — Para reports steaming down river 1500 G.M.T./9 should clear river at 2200 G.M.T.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1224R/9, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

FORT BELLAMY (Free French) — Details of crew trouble. No suspicion of subversive activities. Reporting Officer advises diversion to nearer British Port.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1232R/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U/B Attacks on Convoys. — For information, S.O's. of Escort Group. U-boats have lately been detected close to convoy at night and attacked there by escort. In consequence browning attack at long range may now be developed from bows or even ahead if escort is strong. No change in method of attack likely if escort weak.
(Capt.(D) St. John's, 1247Z/9 to HAVELOCK, etc. etc.)

/Convoy.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

American and West Indies.

BERGENSFJORD Ref. N.O.S.O. Trinidad's 1838/6. [illegible] is urgently required in U.K. and should proceed not later than 20/8. To obviate [illegible] for including her in an U.K. Convoy on account of her speed of doubtful 15 knots, request urgent report whether she can be [illegible] immediately on arrival at Halifax and routed so as to arrive Clyde by 20/8.
(D.S.T. 0438Z/9 to N.O.S.O. Citadel.)

CIRCASSIA, ANDAVAKA collision, 9/7. CIRCASSIA collided with [illegible] Newfoundland fishing [illegible] in thick fog. No loss of life or injury [illegible] damage to CIRCASSIA. [illegible] Inquiry finds no blame [illegible].
(U.A.S. 0914/9 to Admty.)

A/C from FORMIDABLE FORMIDABLE's 1654/6. Request [illegible] difficult, unidentifiable [illegible] Lend-Lease [illegible] Secretary.
(R.A.F.H.Q. 1116Z/9 to C. in C. A.M.C.)

CARRAS, crew trouble Your 2015/6. CARRAS [illegible] 6/8 [illegible] Indians now under arrest. [illegible] have been replaced by 6 local British [illegible] Presumption difficult both [illegible] views them to withdraw for [illegible] obtain fuelling.
(CARRAS, 1130Z/9 to C. in C. E.I.Sqn.)

NORDERNEY (German) Four trawls steering [illegible] five [illegible] should close five at 0800 A.M.
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1856/7, to C. [illegible].)

PORT BELLAMY (Free French) Details of crew trouble. No [illegible] submarine activities. Expect [illegible] advise direction to proceed. [illegible]
(S.O.I. Kingston, 1844/9 to [illegible].)

U/B Attacks on Convoys.

For information. S.O.'s. [illegible] Schemes have lately been [illegible] survey of attack and [illegible] in consequence increasing [illegible] may now be developed [illegible] if convoy is sighted. [illegible] attack likely if convoy [illegible]
(Supt.(D) St. John's, [illegible] etc.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary. 9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

Convoy Route. Your 1849Z/26/7. Recommend departure point in para. 4 Admty. routeing signal vide Admty. 1629B/11/7 should not be to eastward of 054° W. except for ships for Belle Isle Strait and Newfoundland.
(F.O., N.F., 1533Z/9, to C. in C. W.A.)

MOOLTAN Ref. S.N.O. Curacao's 0900/7. MOOLTAN is urgently needed in U.K. and important that she should not be delayed en route. Request no personnel be embarked in Bermuda in excess of numbers permitted by Admty. 1744/16/7 on independent sailings, unless escort can be provided without delaying ship. Request anticipated date vessel is due U.K.
(D.S.T., 1833B/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

NORDERNEY, DESPATCH, FORMIDABLE. German NORDERNEY left Para 2200Z/9. Keep Oiler BISHOPSDALE in company and steer Para River to intercept. PRETORIA CASTLE is in square H.32. BISHOPSDALE will be required to fuel FORMIDABLE in 007° N. 050° W. about 17/8.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 22120/9 to DESPATCH.)

Australia.

U.S. 11B. CANBERRA escorting U.S.11B. left Fremantle 0300Z/8 for Singapore.
(A.C.N.B., 0621Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE RODNEY (torpedoed 5/8.)

My 1600 (begins): Noon position approx. 053° 02' N. 013° 14' W. CAPE RODNEY making water rapidly in No. 1 hold so at 1300B altered course to 105° speed 3 knots in attempt to reach Shannon to beach herself. If successful will stand by until relieved or until further directions received. (Ends.) Situation hopeful, ship only little deeper. Maintaining course and speed. Have you any information and guidance relative to beaching ship River Shannon.
(ZWARTE ZEE, 0555B/9, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
Visibility bad, searched for ZWARTE ZEE for 4 hours with LANCE and ISAAC SWEERS. Have left ISAAC SWEERS who has 45% fuel to continue search and to return Clyde if contact not made by dark tonight.
(GURKHA, 0925B/9, to C. in C. W.A.)
CAPE RODNEY foundered in 052° 44' N. 011° 41' W. at 1100B. ZWARTE ZEE and ISAAC SWEERS returning to Lough Foyle, S. of A. 14 knots.
(ISAAC SWEERS, 1115B/9, to C. in C. W.A., ZWARTE ZEE 1446B/9 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
Your 1446B/9, return to Campbeltown.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1605B/9, to ZWARTE ZEE.)

HORN SHELL (torpedoed ? 26/7.)

Portuguese AFRICAN OCIDENTAL picked up 12 survivors of British HORN SHELL. Proceeding Cape Verde.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1253/9, to Admiralty.)
Brazilian tug COMMANDANTE DORAT reports having received on 8/8 a wireless message from Brazilian CUYABA, Lisbon for Pernambuco, that CUYABA on 8/8 in 025° 38' N. 017° 25' W. (about 100 miles from Las Palmas) picking up a boat with 15 survivors from HORNSHELL, torpedoed by a German S/M on 5/8.* CUYABA was searching for three other boats. Survivors will be landed at Pernambuco about 15/8.
(Consul, Pernambuco, 1330Z/9 to Admty.)
* Query date, see 1735/9.
Ref. I.D. form S.A. para. 10. (1) M.V. HORN SHELL (2) Anglo Petroleum Co. (3) 2300 G.M.T./26/7/1941 (4) Not seen at time of attack (5) Northerly course on surface after attack (6) Not known (7) Ship capsized and remained floating bottom up (8) For survivors see my 1640/9 (9) Not seen clearly (10) 4 torpedoes (11) Not known.
(N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1735/9, to Admty., etc.)
Sunk in 33.23 N. 22.18 W.
(N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1745/9, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary.

9.8.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

At 1824 G.M.T./8, German U-boat within 60 miles of 037° 00' N. 011° 30' W. made enemy sighting report. At 1839 G.M.T./8 different German U-boat on approx. the same bearing from Gibraltar made enemy sighting report.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1105B/9 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1354B/9.)

1257A. My 1357B/9 (N.T. in W.D.) Italian U-boat CALVI or OTARIA class 035° 16' N. 010° 00' W. stopped at 1257A/9. He dived at about 1349. SEVERN remained diving until hope of regaining contact was lost.
(SEVERN, 1801B/9, to Admty. etc.)
(F.O.C.N.A. 1817B/9 to N.A. Stn.)

S.1 Periscope bearing 305 dist 4. 31.24 N., 10.25 E.
(N.G. Call Sign "A C", 2030Z/9 to Whitehall W/T.)

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C. In 34.08 N., 23.04 E., on 8/8.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1108/9.) See Mediterranean.

SEAWOLF reports at 0929B/30/7 in position 46° 41' N. 03° 32' W. unsuccessfully attacked homeward bound U-boat. SCHARNHORST was not sighted on the morning 25/7/7 when visibility was very low and variable.
(F.O.S. 1142B/9, to Admty. etc.)

By SEVERN, 7/8. My P.C. and S. at 1800A/9 are 035° 10' N. 009° 27' W. 099° 15 knots. Sunk U-boat at 0105A/7 in 034° 48' N. 013° 04' W.
(SEVERN, 1902B/9, to F.O.C.N.A.)
(F.O.C.N.A., 2134A/9 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Summer Time. — At 0300 to-day the clock was moved back one hour from Double Summer Time (D.S.T) to Normal Summer Time (N.S.T).

Belfast. — Belfast is to be closed at night, commencing to-day.

Suspected raider. — WISHART was compelled about midnight 9/10 Aug. to abandon the search owing to shortage of fuel for the suspected merchant ship raider sighted yesterday. HERMIONE left Gibraltar shortly after midnight 9/10 Aug. to patrol 300 miles E. of the Azores, and LONDON is to patrol 100 miles N.W. of the Azores when relieved on convoy escort duty. Catalina patrols were carried out from Gibraltar and from Northern Ireland.

Soviet minesweeper sunk. — 3 German destroyers from Varanger Fiord carried out a raid to the eastward a.m. today and sank a Soviet minesweeper N.W. of Kildin Island. Soviet aircraft attacked and claim to have hit one of the destroyers. It is reported that later only 2 enemy destroyers were sighted returning to Varanger.

Enemy Air Operations.

Peterhead, Gt. Yarmouth and Lowestoft were bombed last night. No naval damage was caused.

Mining.

Minelaying last night by enemy aircraft is suspected between the Thames Estuary and Cromer.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S.N.A.9 hit.

3 Blenheims attacked and hit the French collier S.N.A.9 off Lampedusa at 1900 today and left it sinking.

Libya and Western Desert.

Tobruk was bombed p.m. today. No damage is reported, except to the enemy aircraft.

Italian tankers pass through Dardanelles.

It is reported that Italian tankers ALBARO and MAYA passed Chanak 1230/9, and that Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler TARVISIO arrived at Chanak from the Aegean today and has been detained by the Turkish authorities and may return to the Aegean. The latter vessel and another Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler, the URANO passed through the Straits illegally last June and returned to Italy with a cargo of oil from Constanza. The Turkish F.O., whilst admitting the illegality of the movements then permitted the ships to return to Italy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TRIDENT. Arrived. Nothing to report.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 0814/10).

RENOWN. C. in C. W.A., 1949/9. R.A.D. H.F., is requested to sail 3 destroyers to R/V with RENOWN in position (h) and provide A/S screen to Rosyth.
(ii) C. in C. W.A., 1949B/9 has been passed to C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.O.S. and R.A.D. H.F.
(C. in C. H.F., 0942Z/10).
My 1949B/9. Destination should read Rosyth not Scapa. (C. in C. W.A., 1122A/10 to RENOWN).
Your 1945B/9 expect to arrive position HARRY 2300Z/12 request R/V be moved further west. Making good 17 knots. (RENOWN, 1306A/10 to C. in C. W.A.)
INGLEFIELD with IMPULSIVE, ECLIPSE proceed passing Switha 2000A/11 to R/V with RENOWN in position H 056° 00' N., 011° 00' W., at 1700A/12.
2. RENOWN escorted by 4 destroyers is routed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1949B/9. When met provide escort to Rosyth. C. in C., H.F. 0942A/10 is passed to you for information. 3. On arrival INGLEFIELD enters harbour for boiler cleaning and repairs IMPULSIVE, ECLIPSE, ACTIVE will be required to escort REPULSE from Rosyth to Scapa as ordered by C. in C., Rosyth.
(R.A.D. (H.F.) 1946A/10).
C. in C. W.A.'s 1949B/9. Amend position HARRY to 055° 45' N., 013° 00' W., at 1900Z/12.
(C.in C. W.A., 2027A/10 to RENOWN).

FIDELITY. A.T. 1956/8. Request you will sail FIDELITY when ready to Inverie Bay, Loch Nevis to carryout trials referred to as required by C.O. FIDELITY. Ship is to return to Liverpool in time to pick up C.G. 72. (C. in C. W.A., 1102A/10 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

REPULSE. Will be ready to leave Rosyth at 0730/14. Request escort may be arranged.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 2337/10 to C. in C. H.F., R.A.D. H.F., REPULSE.)

Operations.

Search for Enemy M.V. Your 1454/9 and 1646/9. Not sighted. Have covered further on position of 15 to 18 knots course 270° and possible slightly southerly alteration. At dusk and for two hours after carried out patrol across line of advance. Lack of fuel prevented further search. My P.C. and S. are at 0001A/10 046° 56' N., 012° 55' W., 035° 15 knots altering 084° in (? 049°) 20' 010° 20' thence to Southampton.
(WISHART, 0120A/10 to C. in C. Plymouth).

/Request.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Search for Enemy M.V. Contd.
Request you issue to LONDON any instructions that you may consider necessary. (C. in C. H.F., 1014A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Orders to proceed to Portsmouth to refit. (C. in C. Plymouth to WISHART, 1138/10).

W.S. 8 C.
Convoy W.S. 8 (C) and H.F. Destroyers arrived Scapa. W.A. Destroyers returning to Base. (A.C.O.S., 0235A/10).

Operation 'Grab'
My 2053B/9th. Weather unsuitable. Operation postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0733A/10).
Operation 'Grab'. Amend heading 'Time' to read B.S.T. (Zone - 1) will be used.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1227/10 to Admty, V.A. Dover, BLENCATHRA, FERNIE, ATHERSTONE, N.O.I.C. Newhaven, H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., 2,11,16 groups M.G.B. 52, 53, 55, 57.)
Re. operation 'Grab'. BLENCATHRA commences preparation for refit on 18/8 see A.M. 1744/31/7 FERNIE is overdue for boiler cleaning and I intend taking her in hand tomorrow Monday. Recently have had continual commitment for one Hunt class escorting Tankers both ways on Dartmouth - Needles run. Can continue GRAB if escort for Tankers is reduced to Trawlers and I will do this unless Admiralty view strong escort of Tankers as more important. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1243A/10).

S/M Patrols.
My 1457B/9 Para B., and A.L. M.010723/41 of 7th August Para 4, Bay of Biscay West Zone would be a most suitable Area of Operations for River Class Submarines. (F.O.S., 1116A/10 to Admty).

Notice for Steam.
Starting tomorrow Monday destroyers and corvettes in harbour are normally to be at the following notice for steam. 0700A to 2130A 2½ hours. 2130A to 0700A ½ hour. Cancel my 1201B/4/5. (C. in C. Nore, 1429A/10 to F.O.I.C. Humber, Harwich, Yarmouth, Cdre Sheerness, D.16, D.21.)

Instructions for S/Ms on patrol in Denmark Str.
Cancel my 2315B of 28/5. (D.D.I.C., 1605A/10).

NYHOLT.
Detail escort to take NYHOLT (Nor) into Hvalfjord Iceland (C). (C. in C. W.A.,2135A/10 to AUSONIA).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

My 2301/9 aircraft six hours late.
(D.C., 0734A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Voe C discontinued from 1300/10 weather A/S patrol of exercise area in operation 1400 to 1900/10. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1430/10).
Patrol Voe C now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1754/10).
My 1754/10. Patrol Voe C encountered low visibility and has returned.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1916/10).

Military personnel ships crossing from Larne and Stranraer.

A/148. Re Admty 1756B/5 propose too treat this as routine convoy categorys 5. Suitable fighter support to be laid on at routine times of sailing without further signal. If you agree please allocate code word.
(H.Q.F.C., 1315/10 to C. in C. W.A.).
Your A/148 1315A/10 which is being passed to addressees of this signal. Concur. Code word allocated GAMMA. (C. in C. W.A., 1905A/10 to H.Q.F.C.)

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. DAGNY I.

Fire on DAGNY I under control. Proceeding Kalbak.
-(Scapa W/T 0015/10).
In Vaago Fiord endeavouring make Midvaag request assistance. If I can make Midvaag intend beaching DAGNY in Sandevaag. (LEICESTER CITY, 0730/10 to Thorshavn W/T).
DAGNY I sunk off Midvæl. All prize crew saved.
(LEICESTER CITY 0900/10).

WITHERNSEA.

At 2300/9 H.M.T. WITHERNSEA (Skipper A. Garforth) was attacked by enemy Heinkel 111 near H.3. buoy. Guns brought it down in flames. Pilot picked up and brought into harbour.
(F.O. Humber, 0101B/10, 1703A/10).

Convoy F.N.3 S.S. GLENDALOUGH.

2 tugs left Yarmouth at 0115 to assit GLENDALOUGH 56 B buoy. Fighter protection arranged.
Codeword ADAPT. (C. in C. Nore, 0115B/10).
Lowestoft 10th August arrival at 0310A/10 M.L.190 with Captain Mate and 4 other survivors of S.S. GLENDALOUGH all uninjured. 12 missing. Ship hit by bomb 3 miles 350° 56B buoy. Tugs sent from Yarmouth. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0354A/10).
Great Yarmouth 10th August departure tug NESSUS to assist GLENDALOUGH. (F.O.I.C.Yarmouth, 1318A/10)

/Convoy F.N.3.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

Convoy F.N.3 S.S. CARDENE. My 2330B/9. CORDENE bombed and sunk in 053° 00' 32" N., 001° 48' 30" E., wreck dangerous to navigation not visible or buoyed. 25 survivors (group omitted) Yarmouth. Escorting GLENDALOUGH. (SHEARWATER 1230A/10).

Peterhead Peterhead bombed at 0031/10/8. Three bombs dropped on town. No naval damage. Casualties unknown. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0140/10).

Lowestoft. Ref. C.A.F.O., 587/40. Lowestoft bombed by single enemy aircraft at 0112B/10. A to D nil. Some civilian casualties. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0217A/10).

S.S.CLANDURAN. Great Yarmouth 10/8 departure Rescue Tugs KROOMAN and DIVERSION at 0215 to assist S.S.CLANDURAN in distress in 052° 59' N., 001° 53' E. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0225B/10).

E.C. 57 ZOUAVE damaged. Convoy E.C. 57 attacked by M.G. fire by one Do. 215 near 55 A Buoy at 1720B/8. Enemy was immediately engaged by convoy escorts, ships in vicinity and by fighter escort. Enemy made off jettisoning bombs well clear of convoy, pursued by fighters. Hits on enemy with 3 inch and M/G were claimed by Masters of S.S. SHEAFDON and FULHAM IV Former ship suffered one casualty from enemy M.G. fire. Convoy was again attacked at 1745B/9 when near 20 D Buoy by an enemy aircraft of unidentified type with M/G fire on S.S. ZOUAVE which was proceeding to join convoy from Tyne. Enemy was engaged by S.S.ZOUAVE and QUANTOCK and made off. ZOUAVE sustained minor damage and two casualties from enemy's M/G fire and returned to Tyne. (LUDLOW, 0655/10).

Yarmouth. C.A.F.O. 587/40 Great Yarmouth bombed night 9th 10th Aug. Para A to C nil. Para D. water supply to town cut off. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0752A/10).

Mining.

Thames Estuary. 1 Magnetic mine detonated at 1212/9/8 by ARCTIC HUNTER and M.M.S.41 in position 317° N.E. Spit Buoy 1.5 miles. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1300/10.)

Gap B. F.O.I.C. Tyne reports Double Orepesa search of Gap B 17 miles out and back 50% of 1½ miles either side of centre line completed. Negative result. 1555/10/8. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1657/10).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ARETHUSA, SHROPSHIRE. — A.C.N.S (H) 0020B/10 N.O.I.C. Tyne, 1630/10.See Operations Volume.

A/P Trawler FLANDRE. ADONIS. — Collision damage requires docking. Request allocation. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1008A/10 to Admty). Your 1631B/9ADONIS salvage operations completed. Ship now tight and proceeded to Ipswich 1645/9. Have suggested she be beached. (Salvage, Officer, Harwich, 1030/10 to F.O.I.C. Harwich). ADONIS and FLANDRE collided in thick fog whilst on patrol 0545/9. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1229A/10).

FURIOUS. — My 2027B/4. FURIOUS will not now be available till 23/8 owing to further defects. (C. in C. H.F., 1950A/10).

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.10 — JUPITER left Ponta Delgada 2200 G.M.T./9. (N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1001/10 to S.O.(I) Gib).

Diversion of Ships. — Admty Message "GT" In addition to established methods of directing ships to new positions at sea, following system will be used for diversion of ships leaving port on and after 14/8.
A number between two letter position will indicate a distance (in multiples of ten miles) from the position represented by the first letter in the direction of the second letter. Example:-
"H.20 Y". indicates a position 200 miles from "H" along the line "H.Y." These instructions have been embodied in C.A.M.S.I. 499.
(D.T.D., 1240Z/10 to G.B.M.S. all areas).

W.S.11. — Your 1004A/10 (Commitments for Cruisers and Destroyers). Anticipated that only six destroyers will be available for W.S.11 in view of requirements for T.C.12 A. (C. in C. W.A., 1859A/10 to Admty).

T.C. 12 A. — 6 Destroyers required to escort T.C. 12A to Iceland on 25/8. Report names destroyers detailed and whether any HX or SC convoys would in consequence have to sail without destroyer escort. Assumed HAVELOCK and HARVESTER will be available.
(C. in C. W.A., 1907A/10 to F.O.C.N.F.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Suspicious M/V.

Your 1648B/9. HERMIONE sailed westward passing (?entrance of) St. Vincent 20 miles thence course 340° speed 20 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 0030B/10 to Admty.) W.D. Note:- See also under Operations for WISHART search.
Your 2301/9. A/C from Gibraltar will if weather permits carry out cross over patrols 60 miles (?320°) and 140° from 042° N. 016° W. from 1000A/10 till about 1800A/10. (F.O.C.N.A., 0134A/10 -to Admty.)
F.O.C.N.A. 1722B/9. When relieved by EDINBURGH proceed to intercept. (C. in C. H.F., 0847A/10, to LONDON). W.D. Note:- LONDON escorting Convoy W.S.10.
Departure 2330/9 HERMIONE in connection with A.T. 1648B/9. (F.O.C.N.A. 0904A/10 to Admty. etc).
Steer 290°. (F.O.C.N.A. 0952A/10 to HERMIONE).
My 0134A/10. Air patrol established 1000 to 1800 to-day. Patrol in vicinity of 038° 00' N. 021° 00' W. Keep look-out for lifeboat with crew reported in 037° 58' N. 020° 32' W. at 1320/9 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1304A/10 to HERMIONE).
A.M. 0734A/10. Cross over patrols by aircraft from U.K. should now be in operation between 44° 10' N. 46° 20' N. on longitude 18° 30' W. until 2145A/10. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1322A/10 to F.O.C.N.A)

Lifeboat.

Portuguese plane reports sighting lifeboat with crew in 37° 58' N. 20° 32 W. at 1320 G.M.T/ 9. (D.S.O. 0307A/10 to S. and A., N.A).

H.G.70.

Departure 2330 FAULKNOR escorting H.G.70 until limit of prudence then to U.K. via North Channel fuelling at Londonderry if necessary. (F.O.C.N.A., 0702A/10 to Admty. etc.)

FORESIGHT.

(K) 042° 09' N. 020° 15' W. 130° 17 knots proceeding through 036° N. 011° W. (FORESIGHT 1601A/10 to F.O.C.N.A);
On parting company return to Gibraltar through 37° 00' N. 15° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1832A/10 to FORESIGHT).

CLYDE.

To leave convoy H.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar forthwith. (V.C.N.S. 1901A/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

Gibraltar 10/8 2005 French destroyer BRESTOIS ALGERIE, ST. ETIENNE, ST. GISELLE, LOUIS L.D. Eastbound, all full. (S.O.I. Gib. 2213A/10 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

FORMIDABLE.	My 0907/8. Capetown departure 0523/10 FORMIDABLE for R/V with Oiler. S. of A. 20 knots. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0846Z/10 to Admty.)
Air H.Q.	Admty. 2208/26. After "Gold Coast" add "and Nigeria". (Admty., 1008A/10 to C. in C. S.A).
LE CONTE DE LISLE. MARECHAL JOFFRE. ERIDAN.	B.2. report of scuttling preparations. (C. in C.S.A. 1257/10 to S.A. Stn).
COMMANDANT DOMINE.	Your 1152/9/8. Is it intended that COMMANDANT DOMINE shall return to U.K. with next convoy? Have no instructions about this ship. (C. in C. S.A. 1529N/10 to C. in C. W.A).
Force Z.	Cancel my 0331/5/7.* (C. in C. S.A. 1606N/10 to Admty. etc.) * Formation of Force Z.
O.S. Convoys.	Your 1135N/9, it is desired that all ships in O.S. convoys bound for Cape should call at Freetown and thus have advantage of convoy throughout their passage through U-Boat waters. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1822A/10 to C. in C. S.A).
NORDERNEY. (German).	Para reports NORDERNEY dropped pilot at 0700 G.M.T/10 in 00° 24' S. 47° 34' W. speed 10 knots. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1934Z/10 to R.A.S.A.D).
Falklands.	Provision for improving defences. (Head of M. 2040A/10 to R.A.S.A.D.) See Lion Copy.
VILLE DE ROUEN. LANCASTER.	Your 1137Q/7th addressed S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica VILLE DE ROUEN was intercepted at 0030Z/22 by DUNEDIN in 019° 30' S. 011° 20' W. on passage from Madagascar to Dakar. Guard was placed on board and ship proceeded unescorted towards Capetown. Repeat position in which LANCASTER met her in view of large difference in longitude. (C. in C. S.A., 2305N/10 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation report No. 112. Syria. First Convoy for repatriation of Vichy French Troops. Now on passage Beirut to Bizerte due to pass Messina 1000/11. (C. in C. Med., 0008/10 to Admty.)

VENDETTA. Leave Alexandria 1700/10 to arrive Haifa 1500/11 for repairs. 11 artificers and 10 Stokers are to be embarked for passage and accommodation ashore on arrival Gaya. (R.A.D. Med., 0923/10 to VENDETTA).

Operation "Guillotine". Following troops are to be embarked in ABDIEL and destroyers. Serial 20P, 1939 for Alexandria, 21P, 720 for Haifa. (C. in C. Med., 10000/10 to All concerned in 'Guillotine'.)

Port Tewfik. C. in C. Med. 1850/25. Searched channel swept daily. Dangerous area and reported (?position) in Western channel swept twice daily. No result. Port Ibrahiaa Channel swept as requisite to fit sea transport movement. (N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik, 1010/10 to Admty.)

Russia. To Chiefs of Staff from Macfarlane. Concludes:- Odessa is seriously threatened. (Prodrome, Moscow, 1030/10 to W.O).

BOURGAS. (Bulgarian). Expected to pass Spartevento Cape a.m./13 from Corinth. (Capt. S.1. 10300/10 to URGE).

Corinth Canal. Night 8/9, 33 Wellingtons attacked Corinth Canal with bombs and mines, bombs burst on Canal banks and others believed hit gun positions. 6 magnetic mines laid at eastern entrance Canal and in Isthmia Harbour, 1 mine outside harbour. 1 Wellington unable to reach objective dropped bombs on beach south of Pyrgos, Crete, to divert night fighter opposition during attack. 2 Wellingtons bombed Eleusis aerodrome.

Benghazi, Derna, Bardia bombed. Night 8/9, 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi and Derna causing violent explosion in railway sidings, Benghazi, and small fires in Derna port. 7 Blenheims 4 Albacores bombed M.T. and gun repair shops Bardia and camp at Ras Azeis causing explosion and fires at workshops. (H.Q. R.A.F.M.E., 1031/10).

/URGE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

URGE. My 1313B/5. URGE is operating temporarily in area N. 036° 40' N. 015° 40' E. - 340° - 80 - 55 until relieved. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1109B/10 to Capt. S.1).

M/V attacked Augusta bombed. 9/8. 3 Swordfish attacked large M/V Syracuse. 1 torpedo released. No result observed. All aircraft returned safely. 2,500 M/V (corrupt groups) KTG Augusta at 1800. One direct hit on gasometers. (H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1125/10).

Libya, A/C and destroyer attack. My 10340/10. (N.T. in W.D) Request you will arrange attack by 826 Sqn. to coincide with attack by Destroyers with object of continuously harassing defence guns and look outs during their approach attack and retirement. KANDAHAR inform 204 Group repeated to C. in C. Med. as soon as possible of direction and time of intended approach and period during which Air Attack is required. Request you will maintain Wireless Watch on 4205 K/cs throughout night and Broadcast Messages for KANDAHAR and KIMBERLEY on this wave. KANDAHAR and KIMBERLEY are to keep guard on this wave. (C. in C. Med., 11320/10 to 204 Group).
Cancel my 10340/10 and my 11320/10. Proceed to be close off Mersa Matruh at 2000/10. If no further orders are received return Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 12500/10 to KANDAHAR, 204 Group).
C. in C's 1034/10. 2A Lighter leaves Mersa Matruh for Tobruk at 1920/10 passing through H, 1230/11. DECOY and HAVOCK expected time of departure Tobruk 0130/11 passing through R 0335/11, -B 0555/11, thence to Alexandria. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 13200/10 to KANDAHAR).

Monster Liners. Considered that Monster Liner should not visit Gulf of Suez during moonlit periods, and preferable that no large (?ship should) do so if this can be avoided. (C. in C. Med., 11560/10 to Admty.)

Minesweeping. Summary for week ending 9/8. Part 1, Alexandria. One air raid p.m./7 no evidence of minelaying. Total of 5 mines probably type C. all swept by S.A. as follows. (a) one in harbour after four days (b) 2 in harbour entrance after 9 days, one of which exploded at 60 yards after 10th intermittent S.A. Pulse and slightly damaged sweeper. (c) one after 20 days (d) one date laid unknown. Part 2, Tobruk. No report. (R.A. Alexandria, 12110/10 to Admty.).

/Suez.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez Raid 9/8.

My 13050/9. Ref. C.A.F.O. 567. (a) 9/8 Calm cloudless. (b) 2 attacks separated by 3 hours, first high level by 2 - 3 planesoon Ismailia aerodrome, second high level by about 11 planes on Port Said and Suez area. JU. 88 and S.79 identified. No flares, bright full moon. (c) H/E bombs. (d) 8 bombs Port Said, 16 Ismailia, about 2021. (e) Slight damage round docks at Suez, no casualties. (f) Fighter aircraft patrolled area 1, fighter aircraft result unknown. (g) Balloons flying 3200 feet. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 15330/10, to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

ALBARO. MAYA. TARVISIO. (Italian.

My 1044/8. Tankers ALBARO (2104 tons) and MAYA (5383 tons) passed Chanak 1230/9. Fleet Oiler TARVISIO arrived Chanak from Aegean 10/8. Detained by Turkish Authorities and may return Pireaus. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1715/10 to S.O.I. Med.) Comment by N.I.D. 3. TARVISIO (details) and another Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler, URANO, passed through Straits last June and returned to Italy with a cargo of oil from Constanza. Illegality of these movements were admitted by Turkish F.O. who, however, permitted the ships to return to Italy. As regards the future, Turkish Authorities stated that instructions had been given that shoubd any further ships appear at the mouth of the Straits they would be notified that their passage was forbidden. Pilotage was now compulsory for all -vessels and no pilots would be allowed to go aboard. If, nevertheless, a vessel or vessels should proceed they would be detained at Istanbul.

PRINCE BAUDOUIN.

Your 2137/6 ship can be accepted flying red ensign. White British crew desirable. (C. in C. Med. 1801/10 to Adty.)

Troop Convoys, Tripoli.

Your 2006/4. Significance last paragraph not fully understood. Agreed that troops have been arriving but believed they are composed of drafts for depleted units and do not suggest reinforcements. Forward elements of Light Colonial and Armoured Divisions were taken out of line commencing on 13/7 but no evidence of these divisions having retired W. of Derna. Not considered that any German Troops are being withdrawn from Libya. (D.N.I. 1848A/10 to V.A. Malta).

RORQUAL.

Your 1203B/7, expect to arrive 24 hours late. (RORQUAL, 1935B/10 to S.O.(S) Malta.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GEORGIOS G. — Delayed by crew trouble. Armed yacht in a very inefficient state. Consider ship totally unsuitable for her present work of carrying petrol and stores. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa 1715Z/10 to D. of S.T).

China.

Indo-China. — Your 2159/8 and my 0433/9. Decoux agreement. Recommendation. (C. in C. China 0553Z/10 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

America and West Indies.

Suspicious Tanker. — Following received from OPNAV and A.L.U.S.N.A. Ottawa has been directed to deliver to C.N.S. Ottawa for action. American S.S. BARBARA at 1100 G.M.T/9 sighted a light loaded or ballasted tanker in 27° 44' N. 76° 40' W. with a flag similar to the Spanish on side, white superstructure and masts, black hull, black funnel with white band apparently on aimless courses between S. and W. (Spenavo, No T.O.O./10 to Admty.)

LEVIS. — Lost touch during night 8 - 9 in clear weather and has not yet rejoined. Search by air unsuccessful. Understand her compass defective. R/T signal gradually faded, have not heard her since noon/9 she will not have received C. in C. W.As' 0934/9. (BURNHAM 0809Z/10 to F.O.C. Newfoundland).

/NORDERNEY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

NORDERNEY. German. — Left Para P.M./9 request arrangements be made to warn U.S. Task Force 3. MILWAUKEE should be in vicinity. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1101Q/10 to N.A. Washington). U.S. Task Force 3 informed. (B.A.D. Washington, 1727B/10).

Chile, rising report. — B.3. report Nazi rising in (South) Chile a.m. today; Raids made by Police in Puerto Montt and Puerto Varas secured papers and arms outbreak said to have started Putsch. Position obscure. (A.N.A. Santiago de Chile, 1220/10 to S.O.I., Callao).
My 1220. No confirmation of rising available but several arrests made. Communications south interrupted as result of storm. Naval authorities have no news and are unperturbed. (A.N.A. Santiago de Chile 1830/10 to S.O.I. Callao).

LE TRIOMPHANT. — Leave Bermuda 11/8. Programme. Onward programme from Honolulu to Tahiti will be arranged by N.Z.N.B (C. in C. A.W.I., 1222Q/10 to LE TRIOMPHANT).

U/S Submarines — Ref. DOCON 60, 2/8. Report of Capt. Menzies shows R Class are unsuitable for normal patrol and S. Class of Government design are quite unacceptable. Reasons. Considered, however, that other S. Class would be suitable for our purpose, and requested that para. (3) of A.M. 1717/2 may be amended to request for two of these submarines instead of one "R" and one "C" class. (Controller 1229A/10 to B.A.D).

St. John's, N.F. — Re accommodation for destroyers and corvettes. (C.C.N.F., 1408Z/10 to Admty., 1412Z/10 to B.A.D).

Newfoundland Escort Force. — Consider it essential that number of ships of each group of N.E.F. should not fall below 4 including at least 1 Destroyer. Smallest really effective group is however not less than 2 Destroyers and 4 Corvettes. To maintain even former inadequate strength it has already been necessary to loan 3 Corvettes from N.F. Local Defence Force and another ship of this Force is also now indefinitely out of action. Request (1) outstanding Destroyers and Corvettes from U.K. in list originally promulgated may be sailed as soon as possible. (2) Further R.C.N. Corvettes may be sent as soon as possible for N.F.L.D.F. and also to augment N.F.E.F. (C.C.N.F., 1759Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

Port Kembla.	W.F.101 examination service Port Kembla will be brought into force noon/12. (A.C.N.B. 0231Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 10.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

KALYPSO VERGOTTI. Greek, 5686 tons, overdue at Glasgow since 15/7, now presumed to have been torpedoed and sunk on about 29/6 in attack by S/Ms on convoy S.L.78. (D.S., 705).

IDA KNUDSEN. 2 seamen survivors IDA KNUDSEN arrived 9th Teneriffe in lifeboat. No further details amplifying report already transmitted by Consul Las Palmas 28/7. (Consul, Tenriffe, 0915/10 to Admty).

S/Ms Reported.

0236 G.M.T. By D/F at 0236/10 G.M.T. position of U-boat was approx 59° 00' N., 19° 00' W - 20° 00' W. (D.D.I.C., 0615A/10).

0330/5. First Officer S.S. SANTA ELENA informed U.S.A. Naval Attache yesterday that at 0330/5 he sighted large submarine on the surface without lights steaming south close to shore in shipping lane "South of" Languade Vaca (30° 13' S., 70° 38' W). Chilian Naval Authority states no Chilian Submarines at sea on that date but are investigating position etc., in case of mistaken identity. (B.N.A. Santiago de Chile, 1145/10 to A.W.I.)

1049 G.M.T. By D/F at 1049 G.M.T. Enemy U-boat in 46° to 48° N., 21° to 24° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C., 1246A/10).

One enemy submarine on surface bearing 264 distance 6 miles course unknown position 36.25N., 8.30 W. (AVON VALE, 1418B/10 to Whitehall W/T).

1358 G.M.T. Following from Sunderland W3980 (begins) 1 S/M 320 1 270 44.56N., 10° W. T.O.O. 1358 G.M.T. (OAMCU, Glos. 1452G.M.T./10 to D.O.N.C. Whitehall Admty, H.Q.C.C.)
Following from Sunderland W3980 (begins). My 1358 Submarine reported sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (OAMCU Glos. 1503/10 to D.O.N.C., Whitehall, Admty, H.Q.C.C.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1454A/10).

/1400 D.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

10.8.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1400B. U-boat on surface in 036° 24' N., 008° 36' W. at 1400B/10. (F.O.C.N.A., 1533A/10 to Escorts H.G.70, O.G.70, etc).
Your 1533A/10 am patrolling 036° 30' N., between 008° - 009° W., unless otherwise ordered. (ALOUETTE, 1900A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

1935. Am over enemy submarine in 60.43N., 20.15 W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (Aircraft Y 6 D Duty T. 1935/10 to Kaldadarnes H/F D/F Stn.)
Enemy S/M previously reported was when first sighte on course 180° speed unknown. (A/C duty T, 1950/10 to Kaldadarnes H/F D/F Stn.)

A/C over U Boat on surface 060° 43' N., 020° 15' W., at 1935Z. U-boat submerged.
(C. in C. W.A., 2114A/10 to KEPPEL, BEAGLE.)

1844 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat at 14U at 1844 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C., 2044A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

By CORNELIAN. Following received from CORNELIAN. Have attacked contact 217° Bolt Head 2 miles 3 cables. Awaiting instructions T.O.O. 1035 (ends). (C. in C. Plymouth, 1116/10 to BROCKLESBY).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.W. 45 attacked by E-boats.

Convoy C.W.45 was attacked by E-boats between No.10 Buoy and D.Buoy and S.S. SIR RUSSELL was torpedoed and sunk at 0055 near No.10 Buoy (off Dungeness). Enemy forces had been plotted by R.D.F. at 2320/10 and 0040/11 and the convoy escorts and 4 M.L'S of 5th Flotilla which were on anti-E-boat patrol off the South Varne buoy were informed. E-boats were sighted and were engaged and driven off by HOLDERNESS at 0100 and BERKELEY at 0146.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler WALLIS GREY was slightly damaged at 0845 5 miles W.S.W. of Myggenaes (Faeroes).

Mining.

PORT QUEBEC and SCOTT carried out a minelaying operation last night to the north of the Butt of Lewis.

Foreign Stations - General.

Enemy ships transferred to Japanese flag, though not recognised by H.M.G. are not in present circumstances to be intercepted if escorted by Japanese warships nor in areas where interception might lead to an incident with a Japanese warship. Subject to these limitations, they are to be captured if met.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

S.S. EMPIRE HURST which had fallen astern of Convoy H.G. 70 on account of engine trouble was bombed and sunk at 1140 today in approx. 36° 45' N. 9° 40' W. (30 miles W.S.W. of Cape St. Vincent) by F.W. aircraft.

Mediterranean.

Swordfish attack on Syracuse.

Four Swordfish last night attacked with torpedoes S.S. CALIFORNIA (13,060 tons) ship at Syracuse and believe that 2 hits were obtained. Photographs taken on 14/8 showed the ship to be sunk in harbour.

6 Blenheims attacked today the Chemical Works at Cotrone (Bay of Taranto). 3 Blenheims attacked Cariati, 30 miles further up the Coast.

Libya and Western Desert.

Enemy aircraft dropped bombs and 4 mines in the western end of Tobruk harbour early this morning. No damage was caused.
9 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night and hit the Power Station causing an explosion visible at 100 miles distance. 36 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi with 1000 to 500 lb. bombs. Bardia was also bombed.

Canal Area.

About 15 to 20 enemy aircraft raided the canal area in the early hours of today. The attack on Suez was principally directed against American ships berthed near Attaka, 3 of which received 9 near misses amongst them, though only IBERVILLE suffered any damage. No naval damage occurred. The Canal is open to traffic.

PROTECTOR torpedoed.

Netlayer PROTECTOR was torpedoed and damaged by enemy aircraft this afternoon in 31° 42' N. 32° 4' E. (about 50 miles N.N.W. of Port Said) but reached Port Said safely.

China.

The defences of Thursday Island have been completed and manned.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Supplies. Soviet Authorities have drawn my attention to broadcasts by B.B.C. on subject of shipment of supplies to Russia. They consider that dissemination of such information is unwise. (Admiral Miles 0105/11).

Movements.

BRIGAND. To leave U.K. for the Mediterranean early in September and to act as escort to a Motor Launch flotilla on passage. (D.O.D.(H) 1516A/11).

DUKE OF YORK. Movements. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1855A/11, 1857A/11). See Operations Volume.

S/M 14. Re sailing for patrol. (A.C.O.S. 1945A/11).

S/M's working up. TRUANT. Your 1716B/6. Ascertained that it would be necessary to refer your suggestion to Washington. As it is unlikely that all the necessary arrangements could be made before TRUANT is ready for sea, the proposal in B.A.R.M's 1242R/4 that she should proceed to St. John's N.F. has been approved.
2. Your proposal is being given further consideration for future S/M programmes. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2203A/11 to F.O.(S)).

Operations.

Warships reported. Vessels type unknown, destroyers or larger warships bearing 215° from S. Varne. (M.L. 144 0013/11 to Dover Port Wave).

Operation 'Grab'. My 0733A/10. Weather unsuitable, Operation postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0707A/11 to 2, 11, 16 groups, N.O.I.C. Newhaven).

/C.W. 45.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

C.W.45 attacked by E-boats.

C.W. 45 was attacked by E-boats between No.10 Buoy and 'D' Buoy S.S. RUSSELL was torpedoed and sunk 349° No. 10 Buoy 6 Cables at 0055/11. Shore R.D.F. plotted two enemy forces (A) at 2320 in position 107 Dungeness 16 heading for No. 10 Buoy and (B) at 0040 in position 129 Dungeness 10 steering westwards. Plots were broadcast to convoy escort and to 4 M.L's of 5th Flotilla which were patrolling on a Southwesterly bearing from South Varne Buoy. At 0013 M.L. Patrol sighted one E-Boat and at 0022 reported it as retiring eastward contact being lost in vicinity of South Varne buoy. At 0100 HOLDERNESS in position 068 Dungeness 8 reported and engaged one E-Boat which retired to Eastward. This boat is probably one that torpedoed SIR RUSSELL. At 0146 BERKELEY at 'D' Buoy reported, engaged and drove off one E-boat . Night was not dark and visibility was 3 to 4 miles except in heavy rainstorms. Wind South-westerly force 4 to 5 with moderate sea. M.G.B's could not have operated. R.D.F. Set plotting E-boats was an adapted type 271 mounted on a van stationed at Lydden Spout. None of SIR RUSSELL's crew is missing. (M.L. 144 0020/11, S.O. 5th M.L.F. 0022/11, HOLDERNESS 0100/11, 0106A/11, BERKELEY 0146/11, 0148/11, V.A. Dover 0959A/11).

Search for suspected raider.

LONDON is to remain on patrol to limit of endurance subject to returning to Scapa on completion. (C. in C. H.F. 1103A/11 to LONDON, F.O.C.N.A).

FURIOUS.

Loading date (D.N.A.D. 1300A/11) See Operations Volume.

Soviet minesweeper sunk.

Three German destroyers from Varanger Fiord carried out raid to eastward a.m./10. Soviet minesweeper sunk N.W. Kildin Island. Soviet aircraft attacked and claim hit aft on one destroyer. Later two destroyers only sighted returning Varanger two GORDI class destroyers though in vicinity made no attempt chase or engage. (B.S.N.O. Murmansk 1953C/11).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols. 'Nose' I in operation from 0600/11. (C. in C. Rosyth 0644/11).
'Trost', 'Stab', 'Bert' now in operation, (C. in C. Rosyth 1110/11).
'Stand' now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1850/11)

Enemy Air Operations.

CORDENE (Sunk 9/8) Positions of wreck. 2.15 miles 138 degs. from 57 Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2226A/11).

Mining.

East Coast. Observed two parachute mines dropped in 052° 07' N. 001° 56' E. and 052° 08' N. 001° 56'E. (MALLARD 1320A/11)

Enemy Intelligence.

Unknown ship. There are indications of a ship at 0745 in position 095° Start 18' and at 0807 in position 125° Start 03'. Also at 0809 in position 082° Start 22'. (C. in C. Plymouth 0814/11 to WISHART).

Casualties and Defects.

ACHATES. ACHATES and tug ASSURANCE remain at Faroes until further orders. ANTELOPE returns to Scapa. Report details of damage to enable an estimate of essential strengthening work to be made. (R.A. (D) H.F. 0045A/11 to ANTELOPE, ACHATES).

ANDRE MONIQUE. Sailed SCHELDE to assist H.M.T. ANDRE MONIQUE with engine defects drifting off St. Ann's Head. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0053A/11).

S.O.S. Addressed Admiral Lyness from Wick Radio. Intercept at 0049 G.M.T. 500 Kcs. De O.F.A.Z. begins S.O.S. ends. Ship sends no particulars and repeatedly calls Boden Radio. (Scapa W/T 0155/11).

/GLEN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

GLEN STRATHALLAN. YMUIDEN. — In collision in Southern Irish Sea last night. YMUIDEN Temporary repairs will take 3 days. GLEN STRATHALLAN seaworthiness and fighting efficiency unaffected. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1200A/11).

ARETHUSA. — Your 0020B. ARETHUSA can be docked Palmers about 23/8. Restricted refit only can be undertaken in addition to urgent alterations and additions. (N.O.I.C. Tyne 1844/11 to Adty., C. in C. H.F. etc.)

Shipping and Convoys.

F.N. and F.S. — Forcast of Convoy sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth 1100/11 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

Channel Convoys. — A.M. 2345/10/4 and C. in C, Portsmouth's 1243A/10/8. As long as daylight sailing is in force between Dartmouth and Needles consider escort for tankers can be reduced to trawlers only, on occasions when fighter escort can be provided, other wise it is essential to have an A/A destroyer. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1255/11 to Admty.)

BEN-MY-CHREE. — Will embark military personnel at Belfast p.m. /13 and proceed to Lerwick a.m./14. After disembarkation at Lerwick will embark military personnel and is to be sailed as soon as convenient to Clyde. (D.O.D. (H) 1609A/11 to C. in C. W.A., etc.)(D.S.T. 1623A/11 to D.S.T.O Liverpool).

S.C.38. — Met as arranged with all ships. (D.T.D. 1919A/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 704, 9/8).

H.X. 140. — Met as arranged no stragglers. All ships arrived. Normal weather. (D.T.D. 1921A/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 703, 8/8).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.G.70 escorts. — Request you will direct movements of escorts detached from O.G.70 so as to arrive Gibraltar not later than p.m./13.
(D.T.D., 1037A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Iron Ore Traffic. — Your tel. No. 1747. Unable to obtain previous notice of movements of iron ore fleet. We could however telegraph approx. position of ships at noon on any given day and assume that telegram would reach you following morning.
(Bilbao, 1150/11 to Admty).

A/C attacked. — My 1200 A. One F.W. engaged. Enemy disappeared Southward flying low. (LOCH OSKAIG, 1223A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

A/S Sweep, H.G.70. — Sailing FORESTER, FURY, DUNCAN, BOREAS and WILD SWAN at 1600A/11 for A/S sweep in western approaches to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1540A/11 to Admty).
My 1540A/11. BOREAS and WILD SWAN have been ordered to join H.G.70 during daylight/12.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1912A/11 to Admty).
Departure 1700 FORESTER, DUNCAN, BOREAS, WILD SWAN, 2045, FURY in accordance with my 1540.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2050A/11).

PARTHIAN. — Departure PARTHIAN in accordance with my 1106/10 and F.O.(S) 1557/10 PARTHIAN supplied with all Q Messages for passage to Portsmouth.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2100A/11 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY. — Dropped pilot 0700 G.M.T./10 in 00° 24' S., 47° 34' W., speed 10 knots.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 0850N/11 to Admty) (C. in C. S.A. 0943N/11 to S.A.D.)

COMMANDANT DOMINE. — Your 1529N/10. COMMANDANT DOMINE should return to U.K. with next convoy.
(C. in C, W.A., 1215A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

NIEUW ZEELAND. — Your 1947/7. Agree. Proposed she should be included in W.S.11 for voyage from Freetown to India and Singapore.

/Request.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

NIEUW ZEELAND. Contd. — Request how many personnel will be requiring passage. (D.S.T., 1308A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

Convoy W.S.10. — Local escort 3 destroyers 3 corvettes S.O. in VANSITTART leave Freetown 0600/12 to R/V you in 017° 00' N., 020° 05' W., at 0800N/14. (C. in C. S.A., 1325N/11 to EDINBURGH).

LUMINARY. — My 0853/8 B.D.V.LUMINARY is to remain at Durban pending permission of Govt. of Portugal for ship to call at Beira. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1727Z/11 to N.O.I.C. Durban).

OUED GROU. French. — Colonial Office is instructing Governor to seize ship and cargo. (D.E.W.D., 1834A/11 to C. in C. SA).

DIDO. — My 1257/20. Report by L/T from St. Helena your intentions proposed route and E.T.A. Trinidad. (C. in C. S.A., 2227N/11 to DIDO).

Mediterranean.

Situation Report 113. Corinth Canal. — Wellington A/C attacked Corinth Canal heavily night 8/9. Four cucumbers planted in Eastern Entrance Canal Mouth and two in harbour. 14 Aircraft bombed centre of Canal and report reasonable indications of success.

Bardia. — (11) As result of R/C Report of ship unloading Bardia, aircraft carried out heavy low flying attack a.m./10 but no shipping found and R/C report not confirmed. (C. in C. Med., 0021C/11 to Admty).

TARVISIO. — Italian Fleet oiler CISVISMO (?TARVISIO) arrived (?Chanak) 10/8 from Aegean, may be returning forthwith to Piraeus. (Capt. S.1. 1020C/11 to THRASHER).

Fast Supply Ships. — Your 2003C/9. Hans and proposals. (V.C.N.S., 1045A /11 to C. in C. Med.,) See Lion Copy.

/Suez Raid.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid. Night of 10/11, about 20 aircraft in 2 waves attacked Suez and aerodromes south of Ismailia. 4 bombs dropped Shallufa destroying N.A.A.F.I. buildings, etc. 1 killed 9 wounded. (W.D. note- See also 1319/11).

Bardia, Gazala, bombed. Day 10/8. 6 Marylands escorted by Hurricanes and Tomahawks attacked petrol tanker Bardia Harbour registering near misses. 4 Marylands bombed targets ashore Bardia. Blenheims attacked Gazala landing grounds.
(H.Q.R.A.F. M.E., 1102/11).

NOVA SCOTIA. C. in C. E.I. 1036Z/8. Propose allocating NOVA SCOTIA expected ready to sail ex Suez 16/8 to embark about 620 R.N. personnel for Durban for onward passage to U.K. (D.S.T.O. Egypt, 1105/11 to C. in C. Med).

Tobruk mines. C. in C. 1850/25 para (3). Mines swept week, ending 10/8, 1 L, 1 acoustic.
(N.O. Tobruk, 1233/11 to Admty).
C. in C. 1850/25 and C.A.F.O. 587/40. Para (3) nil. 4 mines probably G type dropped in western end of harbour 0415/11.
(B.S.N.O., Tobruk, 1236C/11 to Admty).

S/Ms My 1313B/5 and 1109B/10. Intend following dispositions. P.32 leaves p.m./12 for area V South of 033° 10' between 013° 30' and 015° 00'. URSULA leaves p.m./14 for area N. URGE leaves area N a.m./15 for area M. UPHOLDER leaves p.m./ 15 for area K 038° 00' 011° 00' - 000° - 60 - 75.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1241B/11 to Capt. S.1.)

Mine Explosion. Your 1211C/10. Near miss may well result from intermittent pulsing. See A.M. 1850B/15/7 and particularly A.M. 1629B/13/7 containing reference to A.L.T.O., 7052/41.
(D.T.M., 1246A/11 to R.A. Alexandria).

MAYA ALBARO. Reports graded B.2. (a) Italian tankers MAYA ALBARO had difficulty in loading in Constantza due to damage to petroleum basin. Russian air raids 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7/8 caused much damage to port and town but grain Silos still intact. (B) 4 M.T.B.s and one destroyer (?sunk) from air in Roumanian ports. (C) German staff in Roumania state no German resentment in Black Sea so far but important movements expected after fall of Odessa. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1315/11 to S.O.(I) Med).

/Suez Raid.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid. Canal Area raided by about 15 enemy A/C 0240 to 0530/11 concentrating Kabretufa, Challoufa, and shipping at Suez. N.A.A.F.I. at Challoufa burned out, casualties. One U.X.M. 400 yards W. of Channel at L.130. Canal open to traffic. Port Said and (? Suez) open. No Naval damage or casualties, no damage to shipping, by R.A.F. plotting, 2 enemy A/C proceeded about 40 miles of Suez down Gulf. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 13190/11 to Admty).
My 13190/11. Later reports indicate that attack on shipping at Suez was principally directed against American ships berthed near Attaka. 3 American ships received 9 near misses between them but no appreciable damage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 19050/11).

French Collier attacked. Blenheims attacked French Collier S.N.A. 9 2700 tons off Lampedusa 1900 hours 10/8, 1 direct hit and 3 near misses 500 lb. bombs, ship left sinking by stern, large oil patches seen near position today.

M.V. attacked. 4 Swordfish attack M.V. 13,000*on Syracuse night 10/11, 3 torpedoes released 2 believed to have hit, 1 caused explosion amidships. 8 Wellingtons

Tripoli bombed. attacked N.W. Area Tripoli night 10/11. Target well plastered by stick after stick for 1½ hours, 1 hit on Power Stations caused large orange explosion seen 100 miles away. 1 aircraft machine gunned searchlights along railway from 800 feet smoke screen not very successful.
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1600/11) *CALIFORNIA, 13060 tons, sunk (See 1600/14).

PROTECTOR torpedoed. Following has been read. Have been struck by a torpedo on Port Side 166° 17 32°N., 32° E. 17 miles. (PROTECTOR, 1700/11 to Alexandria W/T).
Your 1300/11 (Reporting torpedoed) acknowledged. E.T.A. to be delayed till 0830.
(R.A. Alexandria, 1546/11to PROTECTOR).
Following has been read.
Hit port side engine room, list increasing.
(PROTECTOR, 1721/11).
Attack was pressed home by Torpedo A/C one hit.
(PROTECTOR, 1945/11 to C. in C. Med).
FLAMINGO, SALVIA are coming to assist you from Port Said and HERO from Alexandria. FLAMINGO report E.T.A. at PROTECTOR and when in touch.
(C. in C. Med., 2015/11 to PROTECTOR).
Your 2016, E.T.A. 23450. (FLAMINGO, 20500/11 to C. in C. Med).
PEONY or SALVIA should be ready to tow PROTECTOR in preference to larger ship.
(C. in C. Med., 2140/11 to HERO, FLAMINGO, PEONY, SALVIA.)

/Vichy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Vichy Convoy for Beirut. My 16000 8. Amend time table Convoy B as follows. -Leave Toulon 1200/13. (route). Arrive Beirut 0800/20. (C. in C. Med., 17210/11 to Med Fleet).

Control of Ports. Your 1109/26. A new Defence Regulation replacing and considerably extending those quoted in A.F.O. 1136/41 is shortly being issued. Extension of these powers to ports abroad raises legal problems. In British Colonial Territories (Malta, Gibraltar) a Defence Order by local Governments seems the proper method. Colonial Office are being approached regarding this and also as regards position in Mandated Territories (e.g. Haifa). Position in Canal and other ports in foreign territory is matter for F.O. who are being approached. Position in occupied territories is indefinite. Further reply will be made. (D.T.D. 1908A/11).

Enemy Schooner. My 2340C/9. Auxiliary Schooner left 032° 52' 013° 10' A.M./10 for position given. (Capt. S.1. 1910C/11 to TORBAY).

SULLBERG German. Nearly completed leading with Pyrites and /or iron ore, may leave at any time for Savona. (Valencia, 2055/11 to M. of W.T.)

HANS SCHMIDT, German. Arrived 11/8. (Barcelona, 2130/11 to M. of W.T.)

NUBIAN, ISIS. Following programme intended for NUBIAN and ISIS in Company (to Bombay). (C. in C. Med., 2205C/11 to Admty).

Situation report No. 114. PROTECTOR hit by torpedo from aircraft 1700/11 in 31° 42' N., 32° 04' E., still afloat. Assistance being sent from Port Said and Alexandria. Dive bombing attack on Tobruk p.m./10 one shot down, one probable, 3 damaged. REGENT sank by gunfire off Ghemines large schooner laden petrol and stores 31/7. On 6/8 bombarded Apollonia at dusk causing small fire. (C. in C. Med., 2231C/11).

MOST SECRET.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

R.I.N. Ships.	Proposed withdrawal of certain vessels. Reply to C. in C. E.I., 0616/8. (F.C.C.R.I.N., 0625Z/11 -to C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.
B.P. 12.	0830Z/11. KHEDIVE ISMAIL, LANCASHIRE, SANTHIA, RAJULA, VARELA, ROHNA, VARSOVA, all containing troops and stores and all for Basra. (N.C.S.O., Bombay, 0839Z/11 to Admty).
C.M.15.	CORNWALL escorting convoy C.M.15 sailed E.T.A. position (H) C. in C. East Indies 0546Z/4 is 1400 G.M.T./18. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1523/11 to C. in C. E.I.) Cancelled see 0654Z/12 Convoy sailing telegram CM 15. ILE DE FRANCE, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, MAURETANIA. (N.C.S.O., Durban, 1804Z/11 to Admty etc amended 1728Z/12).

China.

MARECHAL JOFFRE, (French).	Arrival 11/8. (N.C.S.O., Manila 0638Z/11 to M. of W.T.)
BREMERHAVEN, (German).	Believed to be renamed TEIUN MARU and to be employed in Japanese coastal trade (D.S. 706).
Far East Convoy Escorts.	For Chiefs of Staff. A.D.B. progress report. (C. in C. Far East, 1820/11) See Lion Copy.
Convoy Escorts.	Numbers of A/S escorts required for convoys outlined in Admty, 1640/26/7. (V.C.N.S. 1934A/11 to C. in C. China etc). See Lion Copy.
Thailand.	Proposed measures. (C. in C. Far East, 1926/11 to W.O.) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PRINCE DAVID, DOMINION MONARCH.	Your 0922Q/31 PRINCE DAVID, H.M. Transport DOMINION MONARCH sailed. Due Halifax 15/8. (S.N.O. Curacao, 0600QR/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
S/Ms	B.A.R.M., 1242R/4. In view of C.C.N.F. 1339Z/8 and B.A.R.M. 1326R/8, I now recommend that submarines should go to FORTH at St. Johns N.F. after completing refit in U.S.A. Calling at Halifax to complete to full outfit or torpedoes when necessary. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1011Q/11 to Admty).
FORMIDABLE.	Your 1157A/10. Following is repetition of 1654/8 Begins:- AIDAC addressed B.A.R.M. from FORMIDABLE, intend flying off 6 Swordfish Aircraft before arrival, 24/8. Request detailed instructions where to land. T.O.O. 1654/8 (ends) (B.A.R.M., 1026R/11 to Admty).
U.S.Forces.	My 2221Q/25/6 and your 1142A/11. Request further efforts may be made to speed up information about movements of U.S. Forces. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1233Q/11 to Admty).
LE TRIOMPHANT.	Bermuda departure French LE TRIOMPHANT in accordance with my 1222Q/10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1303Q/11 to Admty).
Troop Transport.	Proposals T.C. 12 B. etc. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1734Z/11 to D. of S.T.)
T.C. 12 B.	Your 1907A/10. HAVELOCK, HARVESTER, READING, SAQUENAY, ST. LAURENT and ASSINIBOINE will be detached for T.C. 12 B. Provided there are no further casualties or other extra commitments one destroyer can still be sailed with every convoy escort. (C.C.N.F., 1823Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.).
HESPERUS refit.	HECLA 1651Z/7. Assumed HESPERUS unfit for further escort duty until permanent repairs effected. Request I may be informed what arrangements are being made. (C.C.N.F., 1824Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.)
WORCESTERSHIRE WARWICK CASTLE.	E.T.A. 0500P/13. WARWICK CASTLE (?reports) both her anchors out of action requiring tug at pilot station. (WORCESTERSHIRE, 1853P/11 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

/Panama.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Cont.

Panama Canal.

Your 1329/27/3/40. Port Christobal now closed from 1800 to 0600 daily. In appreciable number of ships are consequently held up over night after transit in Canal while Master proceeds to N.C.S.O. for route instructions. Port Captain Christobal states no objection to Master leaving ship in Gatun Lake and rejoining at Christobal or Balbao. Request this concession may be taken advantage of. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2156Q/11 to Admty).

TRUANT.

Your 1242R/4. Approved for TRUANT to proceed to St. John's N.F. for short working up period. Proposed programme should be reported. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2205A/11 to B.A.R.M.).

A.M.C.'s Iceland Service.

When relieved of need to provide A.M.C. escorts for convoys it is estimated that your requirements will be met by 7 A.M.C.s This should enable you to maintain five ships running on Iceland Ferry Service. Please confirm.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 2234A/11 to R.A. 3 B.S.)

Australia.

Ex enemy ships with Japanese Flag.

Your 1318/22. Japanese Govt. have, in the past, been notified that transfer of enemy ships to Japanese Flag will not be recognised by H.M.G. Inexpedient however, in present circumstances, to attempt interception of ex enemy ships flying Japanese flag. (a) if escorted by Japanese warships, (b) if met within an area where such action might at the time of interception or before the ship had safely reached port, lead to an incident with a Japanese warship.
Subject to above limitations, such ex-enemy vessels if met with should be captured.
(Head of M.,*1956A/11 to A.C.N.B.) * Approved by 1st Lord.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ST.ANSELM (torpedoed 30/6.)

Spanish ship TOM arrived Rosario 9/8 with Chief Officer and 15 crew SAINT ANSELM picked up 17/7 all well. Names in my immediately following telegram to Admiralty only.
SAINT ANSELM sunk by torpedo 30/6 at 0210 in 032° N., 026° W., enemy not seen. Capt. and 16 crew last seen in other lifeboat same day, remainder of crew all Lascars believed killed.
(N.C.S.O., Buenos Aires, 2210Z/11 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0250.

One submarine on surface bearing 310° distance 2 miles, course unknown, my position 37.24 N., 10.55 W.
(NESTOR, 0250/11 to Gib.,W/T.)

1116 G.M.T.

D/F at 1116 G.M.T. U boat in 49° 20' N., 19° W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1259A/11.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1413A/11.)

1225 G.M.T.

D/F at 1225 G.M.T., Italian U/boat in 46° N., 4° W., unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1503A/11.)

1345 G.M.T.

German U-Boat has probably reported Convoy H.G.70 or O.G.70 at 1345 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1550A/11 to FAULKNOR, AVON VALE, Escorts of O.G.70.

1656.

U-boat in 038° 02' N., 010° 25' W., at 1656.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1745A/11, to N.A. Stn.)

1820.

Unidentified S/M 61.36 N., 16.20 W. heading 040° stopped on surface.
(KY7V Squadron V 1820/11, to R.A.F. Iceland.)
(O.A.M.C.U., 2115 G.M.T./11 to A.M. Whitehall.)

1819A.

My 1819A/11. (N.T. in W.D.)Further D/F bearings indicate U/B is still shadowing Convoy.
(D.D.I.C. 2248A/11 to RAMSEY.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

11.8.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By DEPTFORD. Attacking Submarine which dived when sighted on surface. My P.C. & S., (G or K) R.T. E 16 10 235° 12.
(DEPTFORD, 0235Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)
W.D. Note.- If G.R.T.E. = 37.16 N., 9.50 W.
My 0235Z/11. 3 attacks carried out after which contact was lost. Am carrying out sweep in the vicinity, CONVOLVULUS in company.
(DEPTFORD, 045Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

By HERMIONE 2/8. Congratulations on good look-out and prompt action which enabled you to ram and destroy an enemy U-Boat on 2/8/1941.
(V.C.N.S. 1615A/11 to HERMIONE.)

By A/C. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive and estimate hits nil.
(A/C, C.C., 1617/11 to 19 Gp. H.Q.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

12.8.1941.
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

The Soviet Naval Authorities have agreed to a British Naval Officer and Staff being established at Archangel for duties in connection with shipping.

British Air Operations

Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Rotterdam Docks and other targets in the Dutch Ports and Rivers last night.

Four Blenheims with heavy fighter escort, today bombed the shipyard at Le Trait, direct hits being obtained on the slipways and also on a ship on the southern slipway

A Hudson of Coastal Command today extinguished the Lindesnes Light.

Enemy Air Operations

Fishing Trawlers VOLESUS and EMPIRE FISHER were attacked at 1250 today in 63° 0' N., 5° 50' W The latter was slightly damaged.

SS EAGLESCLIFFE HALL was bombed and damaged today off Sunderland.

Mining

Fishing smack EXPRESS was mined and sunk today about 6 miles N.E. of Whitstable.

Mediterrancan

Malta — About 9 aircraft attacked Malta last night. No Naval damage is reported.

Libya and Western Desert. — 5 Wellingtons last night attacked the harbour at Tripoli. Derna and Bardia were also attacked.

/A sustained....

MOST SECRET

12.8.1941.
Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Libya and Western Desert-Contd.

A sustained enemy air attack was made last night on Tobruk; electric power lines were brought down. During the day, four separate air raids were made on Tobruk, "A" Lighter No. 14 was mined and sunk in the harbour and an ammunition dump was destroyed. There were a few casualties. Mersa Matruh was also attacked.

Cyprus

Famagusta was raided by 3 enemy aircraft at 0940. One schooner laden with benzine was damaged. War effort is unaffected.

Canal Zone

About 9 enemy aircraft attacked the Canal zone last night, including Port Said, Ismailia and Alexandria. No Naval damage is reported.

U-Boat Campaign

H.G. 70.

It is estimated that 6 or more U-Boats are near H.G. 70, west of Cape St. Vincent. A Catalina aircraft escorting H.G. 70 reported a U-Boat shadowing at 1400 and two Condors in sight at 1630. BOREAS and WILD SWAN joined the convoy at 1415 from Gibraltar and F.O.C.N.A. has asked C. in C. W.A., to send destroyers to meet the convoy on 15/8 when the four now escorting must leave for Gibraltar to fuel. Destroyers left Gibraltar at 1540A/11 for an A/S sweep in the western approaches to Gibraltar.

LONDON's A/C bombed a U-Boat on the surface at 1437A and probably damaged it.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.8.41.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Finnish Ships.

Finnish Ships will be seized by Customs tomorrow. Request information regarding pay and conditions for members of crew willing to serve under British Flag to enable ships to proceed to discharging port. If these conditions available immediately, considerable delay and expense might be saved.
(C.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1145/12.)
Your 1145/12. Conditions. (D.T.D. 1736A/12.)

Co-operation with Russia.

British S.N.O. Archangel.

WX 3217. My 1458C/6 and F.O. Tel. J 97 9/8 Soviet Naval Authorities have agreed to a British Naval officer and staff being established at Archangel for these duties.
(Admiral Miles 2010/12.)

Movements.

AICA.

Having embarked necessary mines and stores AICA is to be sailed for the West Coast of Africa in the first suitable convoy.
Destination Bathurst.
(D.T.M. 1207A/12.)

ARGUS.

Request you will arrange for 3 destroyers to screen ARGUS sailing from Clyde to Scapa on 19/8.
(C. in C.H.F. 1602A/12 to R.A.(D) H.F.)

PARTHIAN

PARTHIAN painted blue route to Portsmouth.
(F.O.S. 1641A/12 to S/M's on patrol in Area A.)

SOKOL.

Left Dartmouth to patrol in Bay of Biscay at 1702A/12.
Route. (Capt. (S)5 1815A/12 to S/M's on patrol in Area A.)

RAMILLIES.

Will return to U.K., to refit as soon as escort can be arranged.
2. C. in C. W.A. (a) arrange A/S escort from Reykjavik to Liverpool, using destroyers of escort of PRINCE OF WALES from St. Johns N.F. as required and (b) provide route.
(3) A.C.I.C. to sail ships as requisite.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1927A/12.)

War Diary.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

2 M.L's. Two M.L's leave Dover 2230/12 proceeding on an easterly course returning about 0330/13. (V.A.Dover 1626A/12.)

British Air Operations.

Patrols. NOSE 2 being flown from 0830 during daylight hours today. (C. in C. Rosyth 0800/12.)
In operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1134/12.)
P.R.U. to Stavanger and Kristiansand now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1538/12.)
Cross over patrol 62° 26' N., 06° 00' W.
62° 26' N., 05° 37' W.
63° 42' N., 06° 00' W.
63° 42' N., 05° 37' W.
being flown by Whitley aircraft between 0500/13 and 1530/13.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1728/12.)
TROST in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1932/12.)

Bomber Command Operations. Night 11/12 Aug. 14 A/C's attacked Rotterdam Docks. Bursts were seen in the Dock area and incendiaries started a good fire. Alternative Targets. Scheveningen Docks, barges on the river Maas near Nijmegen, Rotterdam Docks, unidentified docks believed near Rotterdam, S/Ls near Dordrecht, Calais Docks, each attacked by one A/C. (H.Q.B.C.1408/12.)

RENOWN. Fighter protection has been asked for while within operational range. Code word EXPERT.
(A.C.O.S. 1857/12.)

Enemy Air Operations.

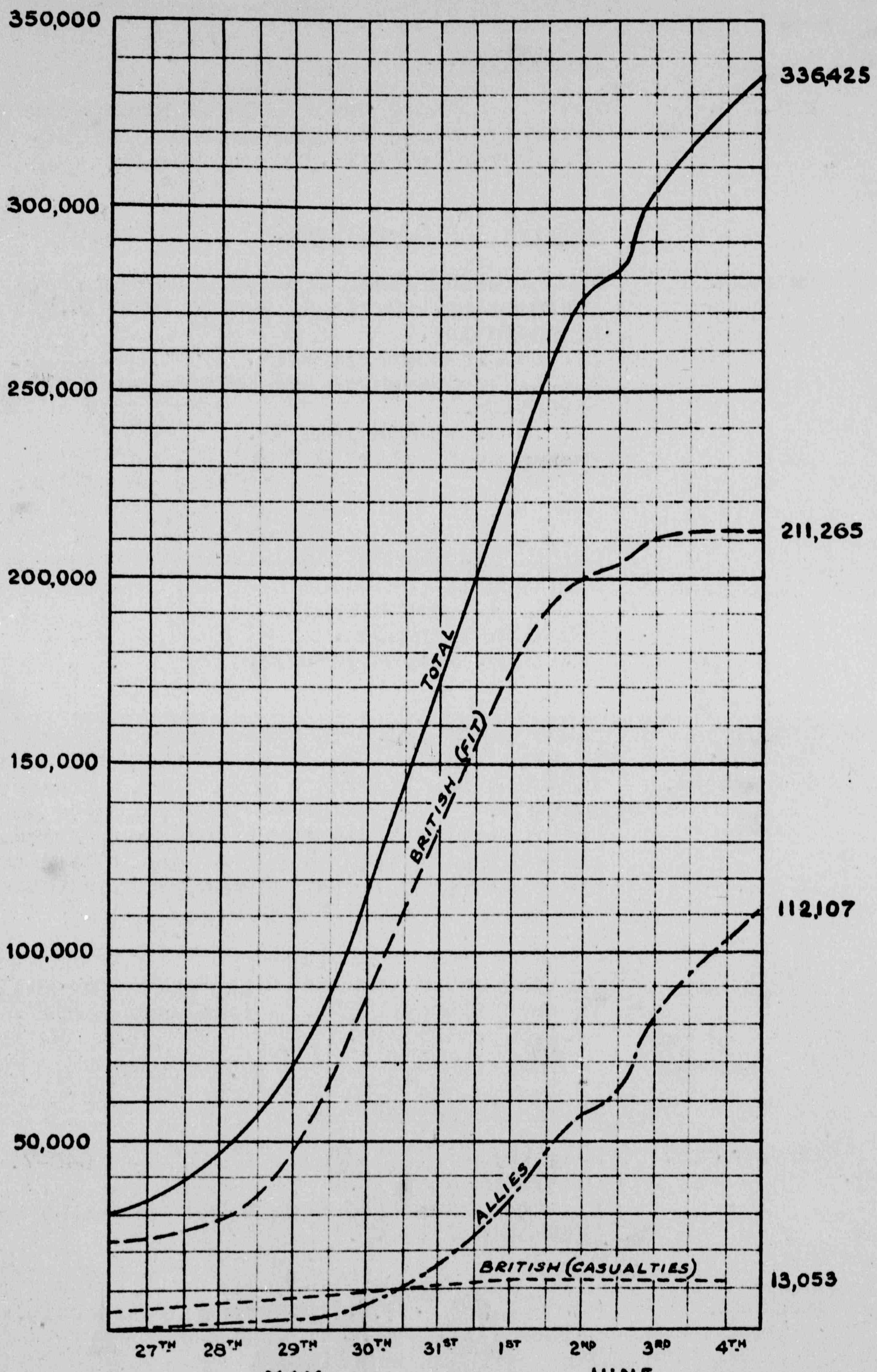
Convoy P.W. Help WHEEL - 60° 3' N., 4° 37' W. 040-7.
(TYNEDALE 0157/12.)
Fighters have been despatched to assist WHEEL.
(Plymouth 0219/12.)

VOLESUS. 63.00 N., 05.50 W., attacked by aircraft.
(VOLESUS 1250/12.)

WALLIS GREY.....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.8.41.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. Contd.

WALLIS GREY (GY516.) (Trawler.) — Reports she was bombed and machine gunned by twin engined monoplane at 0845/11, 5 miles W.S.W., Myggenaes. Slight damage no casualties (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1457A/12.)

S.S.EAGLES-CLIFFE HALL. — Sunderland reports:- S.S. EAGLESCLIFFE HALL (1900 tons) hit in engine room by bomb whilst on passage from Seaham harbour to examination anchorage Sunderland. Casualties on board, number unknown. Ship has caught fire aft, will not bring her into harbour if any danger of sinking 2250/12.
(F.O.i/c Tyne 2312/12.)

Mining.

EXPRESS C.K.231. — C.A.F.O. 1968/40. R.N.O. Whitstable reports:-
(1) Exact time not noted. Rescued crew were landed at Whitstable at 1530 and appear to have gone straight home.
(2) Fishing smack EXPRESS C.K. 231 of Tollesbury Essex.
(3) Fishing smack.
(4) 1 mile S.W., of East Spaniard Buoy.
(5) Not known.
(6) Ship struck near propellor, the timbers opened up and ship sank.
(7) Crew took to small boat and were picked up and brought ashore by fishing smack EMMA F.88 which was 4 miles away. Ends.
Explosion reported as small. Black smoke observed. (C. in C. Nore 2141A/12.)

Technical.

Recognition Signals. — A.M. 1450/8. Alternative 2 has advantage of being simpler for minor war vessels and also enables recognition signals for major war vessels to be changed quickly without awaiting promulgation to minor war vessels. The security aspect is of vital importance and it is therefore considered alternative I should be given a trial in spite of the above points.
(C. in C. Nore 1030A/12 to Adty.)
A.M. 1450/8. Consider value of any extra security gained by a complication of existing recognition signals very small as encounter between our minor war vessels and enemy vessels seldom occurs in waters in which doubt as to identity may arise. In invasion any recognition signals used by minor war vessels will be quickly compromised. Alternative (ii) is therefore preferred.
C. in C. Rosyth 1459/12 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.8.41.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ACHATES. My 1538/11. Further report shews ship cannot proceed without further repairs.
(R.A.(D) 1012/12.)

ADVENTURE. Considered fit for duty with 1st. M.Ls. at speeds not exceeding 15 knots without incurring further damage. (R.A.(M) 1021/12 to Adty.)

CHURCHILL. E.T.A., 1830Z/12. Have serious salt water leakage into oil fuel tanks.
(CHURCHILL 1100Z/12 to A.C. Iceland (C)).

STRATHMAREE. Departure tug DIVERSION at 1110A to assist A/T STRATHMAREE aground South Middle Haisboro Sands. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1115A/12.)
A/T STRATHMAREE refloated without assistance. No damage sustained.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1212A/12.)

S.O.S. Automatic S.O.S. heard at 1500 G.M.T. strength 3 bearing 023 degrees.
(Lands End Radio 1501/12, C. in C. Plymouth 1600/12.)

HESPERUS. C.C.N.F. 1824Z/11. HESPERUS is fit for escort duty. In view of defects that have developed consider ship be refitted early date.
(HESPERUS 2056/12 to A.C.I.C.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X. 143. Sailing telegram as amended by Admty. (contains the names of 74 ships.)(D.T.D.1227/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

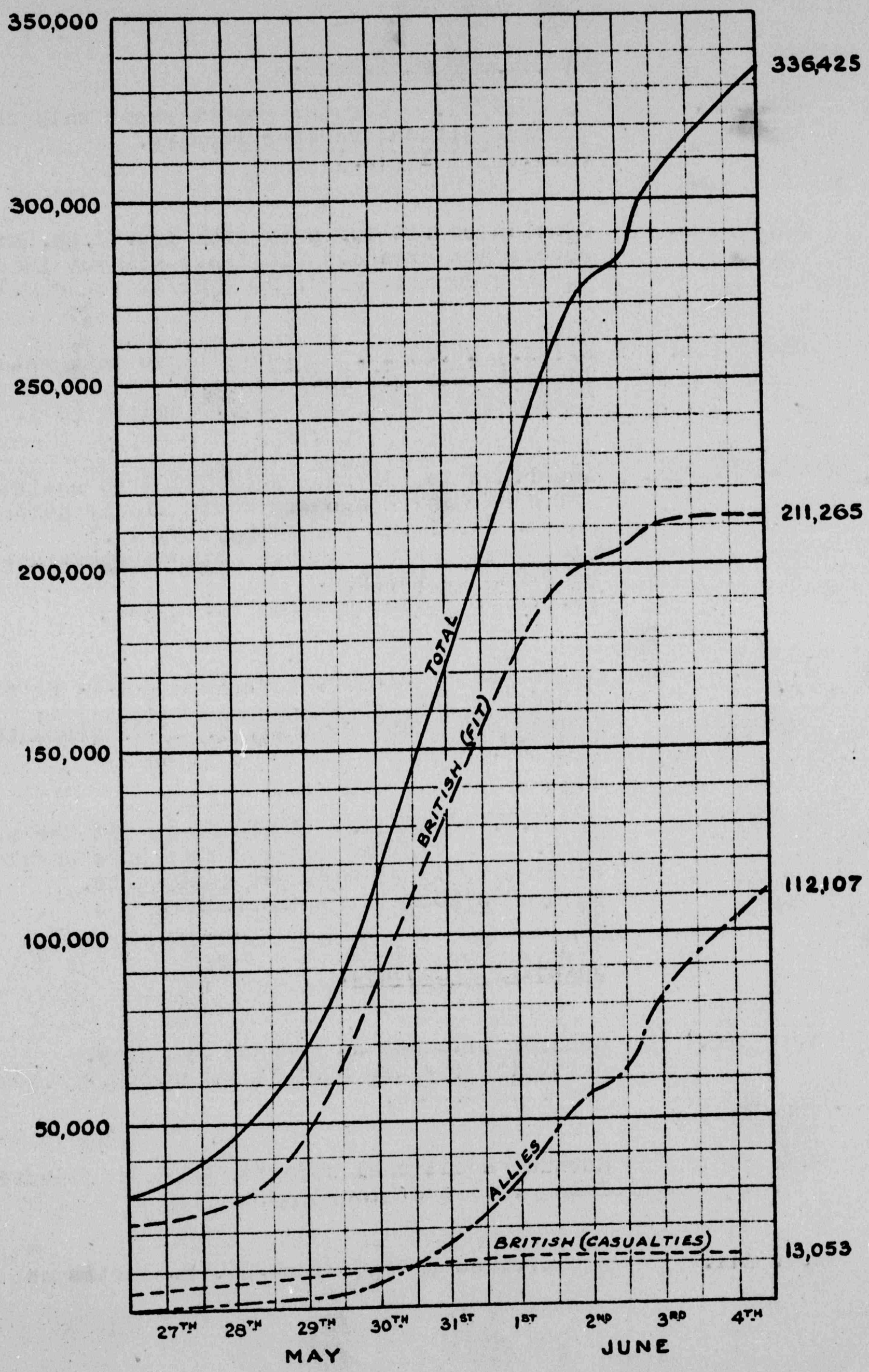
F.N., E.C., & F.S. Harwich additional escorts. (F.O.I.C.Harwich, 1245A/12.) See Lion Copy.

H.X. 141. Has arrived safely, Vice-Adm. B. Curtis as Commodore.

/45 British.....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

War Diary.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys

H.X.141. Contd.

45 British, 1 neutral, 13 Allied ships. Cargoes. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

Bristol Channel Ships.

As it has been found impracticable for Bristol Channel ships of inward ocean convoys to join up with B.B. convoys without first proceeding to Belfast, it is intended in future that all such ships shall proceed into Belfast where arrangements will be made for their inclusion in the B.B. convoys. W.A.C.I., part 133 Par. 45 will be amended. (C. in C. W.A., 1502A/12 to F.O.I.C.'s etc.) Details of procedure (C. in C. W.A., 2223A/12.) See Lion Copy.

H.X.142. S.C.39.

HX.142 and SC.39 are to remain in company until further orders. (C. in C. W.A., 1523A/12 to Escorts.)

EMPRESS OF CANADA. CITY OF LANCASTER. Force 3.

EMPRESS OF CANADA is to embark all Force 111 and proceed to Tail of Bank. Troops will disembark on 14/8. Disposal of Naval Base Staff. CITY OF LANCASTER is to be sailed for Tail of Bank, will subsequently be completely unloaded. (D.O.D.(H) 1813A/12 to V.A.C.T.C.,etc.)

Balloons.

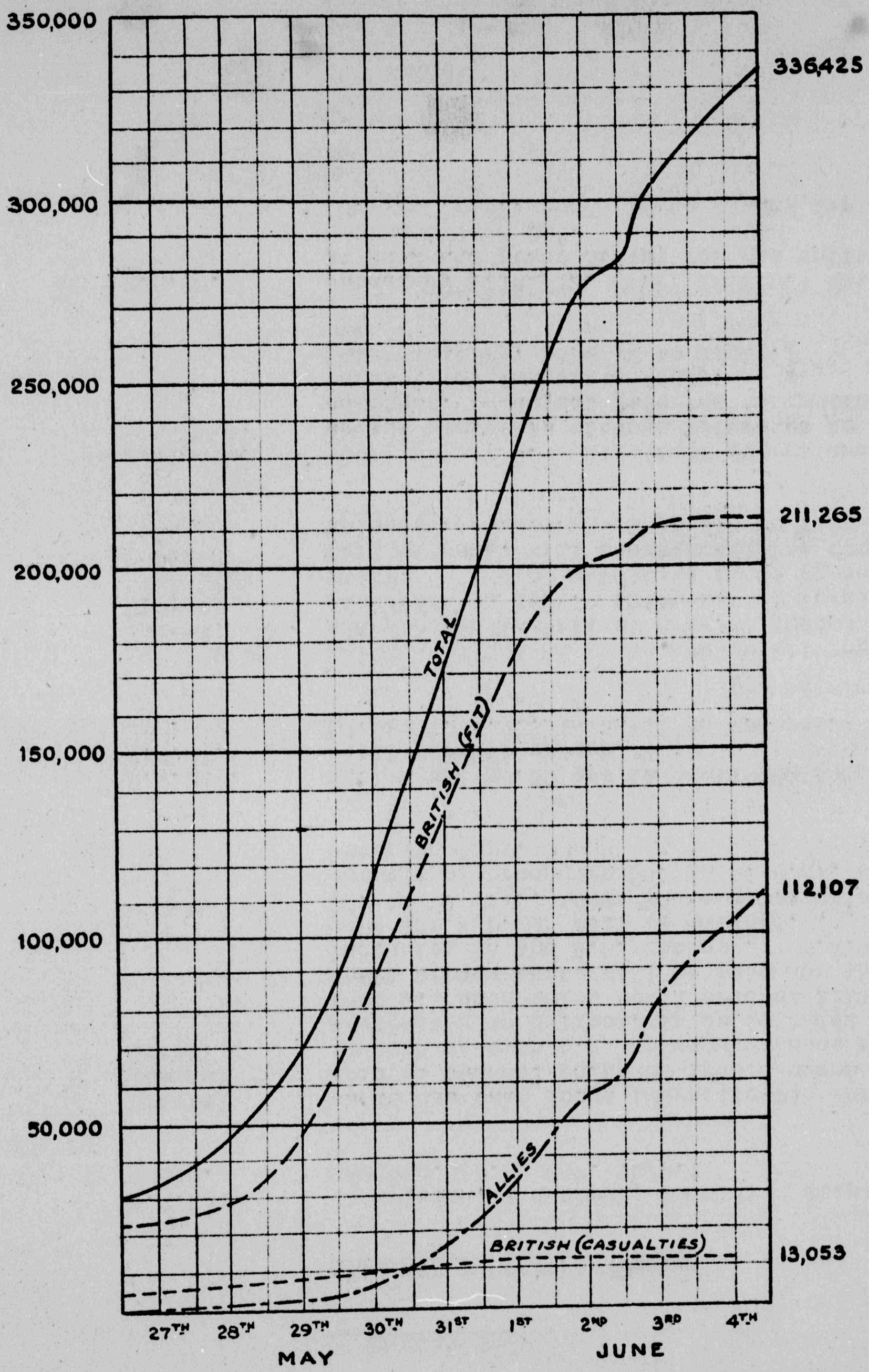
Your 1557B/7/8. Air Staff regret unable to accept proposals without reference to operational commands. Subject referred to commands with request for immediate reply. (Air Ministry, 1824/12 to Admty.)

S.L.82.

Cancel my 1716A/12. (N.T. in W.D.) Alter course at dusk and steer direct for Old Split position 055° 40' 008° 30'. (C. in C.W.A., 1857A/12 to WALKER for Cmdre.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders. Intelligence. (D.D.I.C.1825A/12) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

MANCHESTER, FIREDRAKE. Your 1806B/8. Dates can be ready for sailing to U.S.A. for refit. (F.O.C.N.A. 1056A/12 to Admty.)

FORESTER, FURY, DUNCAN. Leave Patrol after dark tonight to arrive Gibraltar 0800/13. (F.O.C.N.A.1138A/12 to FORESTER, FURY, DUNCAN.)

17th M.L.F. Intend to sail 17th Motor Launch Flotilla SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE and ARRAU for Freetown via Bathurst p.m./13. (F.O.C.N.A. 1140A/12 to C. in C.S.A.)

LE TRAIT, CAUDEBEC. (French). Departure 10/8, both for unknown destination. (Lisbon, 1152/12 to M. of W.T.)

French S/M's. French Admty. request me to inform you of following movements :-
(i) One French S/M escorted by sloop will pass Gibraltar Westbound 17/8 about 1000 G.M.T.
(ii) Similar Unit will pass Eastbound 26/8 about 1100 G.M.T. (N.A. Madrid 1339/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

EMPIRE HURST bombed, sunk. Arrival LADY HOGARTH with nine survivors from S.S. EMPIRE HURST. (F.O.C.N.A.1446A/12 to Admty.)
C.A.F.O.770/40. British EMPIRE HURST sunk by bombs from F.W. aircraft 1140/11 approx. 36.45 N. 09.40 W. Master and W/T Officer both went down with ship. Ship had fallen astern of convoy H.G.70 due to engine trouble was hit by one or more bombs and sank in one minute. Compromise of books unlikely. Information from Bosn. Survivors landed Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1902A/12 to Admty.) British, 2352 tons, bound from Aguilas for Barrow with iron ore. (D.S.708)

/H.G.70 .....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

H.G.70. Vessels addressed are to remain with convoy H.G.70 until prudent limit of endurance subsequently returning to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642A/12 to AVONVALE ERIDGE, BOREAS, WILDSWAN.) Following received from Catalina aircraft (begins). At 1400/12 U-boat shadowing H.G.70. Two Condors in sight at 1630. BOREAS, WILD SWAN joined convoy at 1415/12. (Ends). Can destroyers be sent to meet convoy on 15th when those now escorting must leave ? (F.O.C.N.A. 2326B/12 to C. in C.W.A.)

French shipping. 1145/12 French destroyer two French ships P.C. and S. 261° Cape Spartel 128 miles, 149° 8 knots. Gibraltar 1405 French armed trawler L'AJACCIENNE, French ships OUED TIFLET, ILE ROUSSE both full, PENERF light with deck cargo passed Westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1715A/12 to Admty. etc.)

FRANKFURT (scuttled 4/8.) Spanish broadcast on 11/8 states missing members of crew have been landed in Lisbon by a Portuguese destroyer. (D.S.707, 12/8.)

O.G.70. Arrival FORESIGHT, NESTOR, CORBOPSIS and O.G.70. (F.O.C.N.A. 1928A/12 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

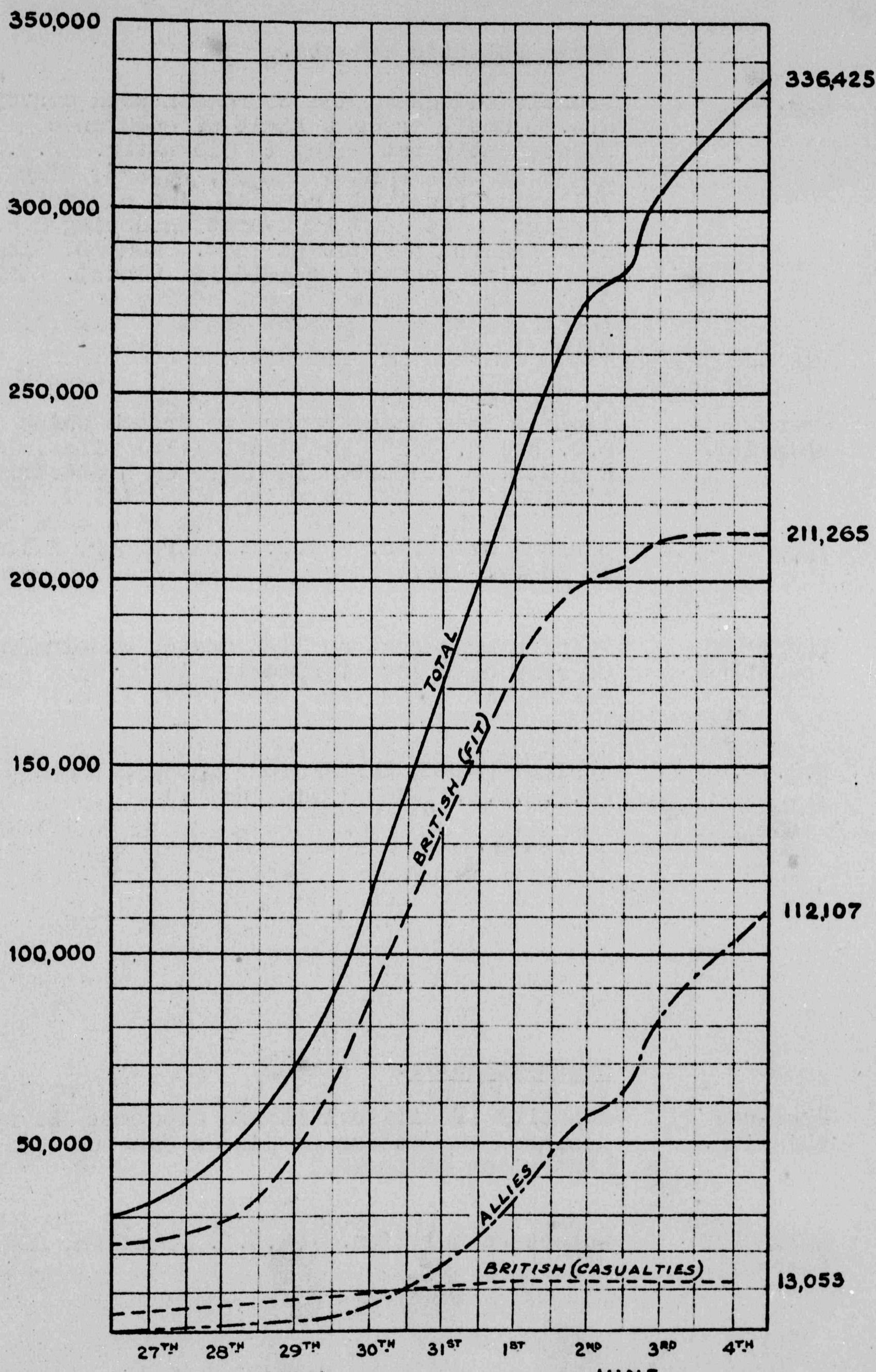
Japanese shipping. Quantity of oil fuel aboard Japanese Ships as declared to Customs at Rio de Janeiro. (S.O.I. Montevideo 02012/12.)

NORDERNEY. (German) Latest description. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0920N/12.)

/B.D.V's .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

B.D.V's. Your 1305B/7. Request information whether (1) allocation of boom defence vessels is still as in your 1?18/17/4, or (2) any vessels in addition to those mentioned in your 1351/?7/6, are allotted to B.D.O. (West ?) Africa. (My 0223/27/7 refers). (3) RENNET, JENNET and PUNNET are still to be sailed for Turkey, in accordance with your 2122/1/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1311N/12 to Admty.)

NORDERNEY or ? RIO GRANDE. Reported by local authorities off Brava, Venezuela, at 0220Z/12. (C. in C.S.A. 1620N/12 to ships in Area P.) Note by War Reg:- This message presumably refers to movements of German ship NORDERNEY. W.D. Note. Daily Summary, however, (No.708) states ship concerned is RIO GRANDE.

PETER KERR. Overdue ships, cancel my 1010/8. PETER KERR arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0941B/12.)

Bathurst To be defended with a controlled minefield. (D.T.M. 1208A/12 to C. in C.S.A.) See Lion Copy.

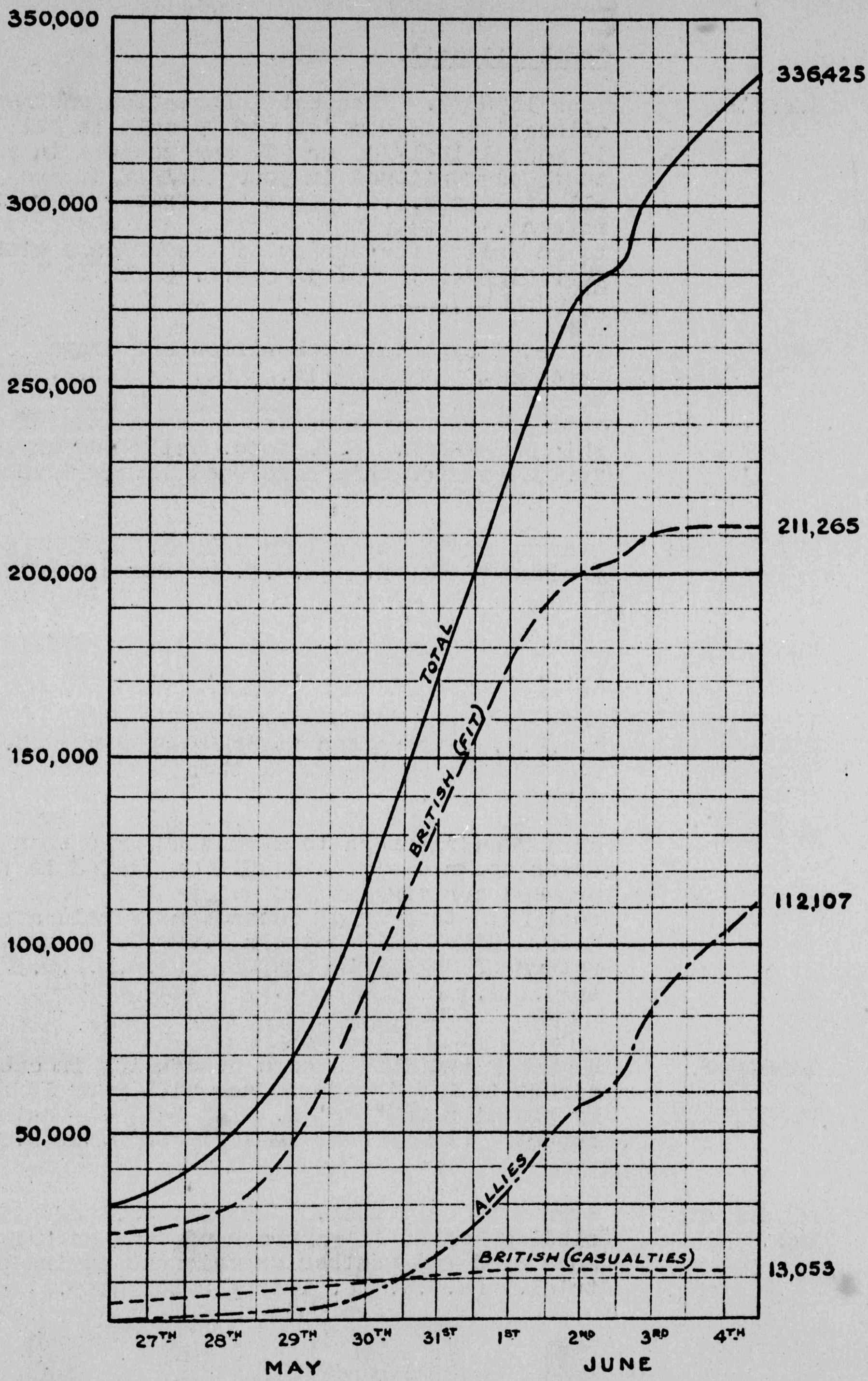
BIRMINGHAM, NEWCASTLE, CARNARVON CASTLE. R.A.S.A.D. transfers to BIRMINGHAM at F.O.14/8. BIRMINGHAM and NEWCASTLE then pass through in company to K.32. CARNARVON CASTLE is to be at (corrupt group) at 1200 G.M.T./18 to transfer ERLANGEN prisoners to NEWCASTLE, who then proceeds to Freetown. CARNARVON CASTLE is then to proceed arriving at Montevideo 1200 G.M.T./22 to fuel (800 tons only) subsequently returning to K.33. BIRMINGHAM patrols K.32, K.33 until return of CARNARVON CASTLE. (R.A.S.A.D.1305Z/12 to S.A.D.)

BERGAMOT, CLOVER, VANSITTART. BERGAMOT and CLOVER each proceeding independently direct to R/V in accordance with your 1325N/11. My position 009° 08' N. 014° 54' W. Weather report. (VANSITTART 1401?/12 to C. in C.S.A.)

Oiling at Sea. Your 2023 July 25th. Request full details including method of approach of, and securing oiler, hose used and weather experienced during previous trial. (R.A.S.A.D. 1743Z/12 to Admty.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

PROTECTOR (torpedoed by A/C 11/8.)

Your 2016/11. PROTECTOR in tow of SALVIA, P.C. and S. 161, 32° N. 32° E. 16, 090° 5 knots. PEONY and RAGLAN CASTLE in company. Consider HERO unnecessary. E.T.A. Port Said 0600C, tugs required. (FLAMINGO, 0015C/12 to C. in C. Med.)
Return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med. 0229C/12 to HERO.)
FLAMINGO's 0015C/12. Am returning Alexandria E.T.A. 0945. (HERO 0230C/12 to C. in C. Med.)
Arrival Port Said 12 PROTECTOR. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 2231C/12 to Admty. etc.)

NEPTUNE.

Enemy torpedo a/c were operating 40 miles from Port Said yesterday. (C. in C. Med. 0910C/12 to NEPTUNE.)

Alexandria Raid.

Alexandria air raid at 0340. One enemy, three bombs, three persons and two houses injured. (R.A. Alexandria, 0928C/12.)

Port Said Shipping.

Movement of Shipping North from Port Said is being held up pending description from PROTECTOR of nature of attack on her. (S.B.N.O. Suez 0930C/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Suez Raids, PROTECTOR torpedoed.

About 15 enemy a/c attacked Suez Zone night 10/11. 1 ship slightly damaged at Suez, where mines believed dropped.
Day 11/8. 2 enemy a/c attacked PROTECTOR with torpedoes 30 miles off Port Said. 2 Beaufighters despatched to escort vessel into Port Said returning owing to darkness. Night 11/12. About 9 enemy a/c attacked Suez Canal Zone. Telephonic communication cut but believed bombs dropped on Port Said and Ismailia, 4 aircraft damaged, several stores buildings destroyed at Abu Sueir. 1 Airman killed, 9 others wounded, further 1 aircraft dropped 3 bombs on Alexandria, damage believed slight. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1036/12.)

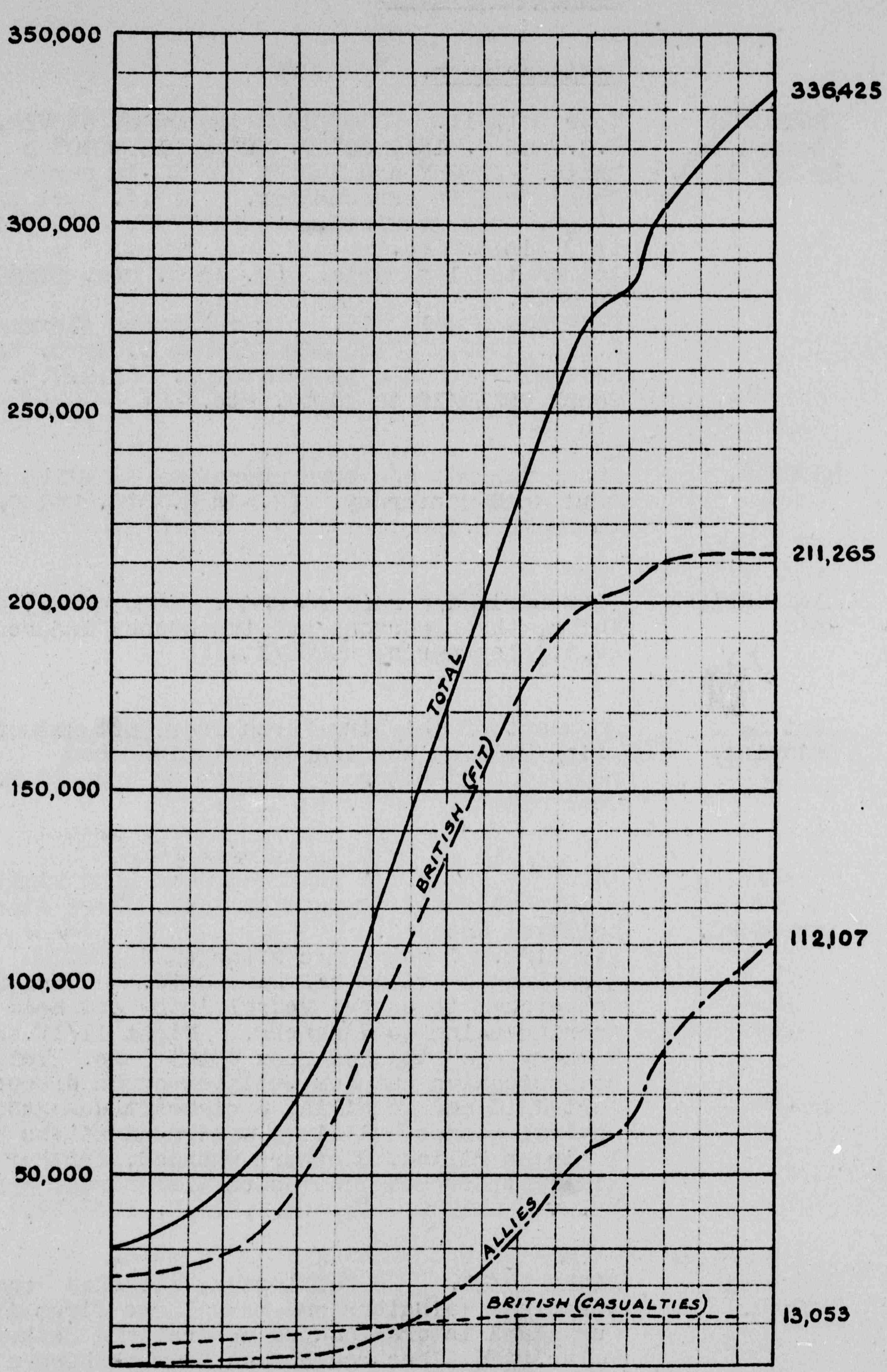
Benghazi bombed.

Night 10/11. 36 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi starting explosions and many large fires in Quays and in area behind central and Cathedral Moles. 5 Albacores bombed MT workshops at Bardia. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1047/12.)

/P.32 .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

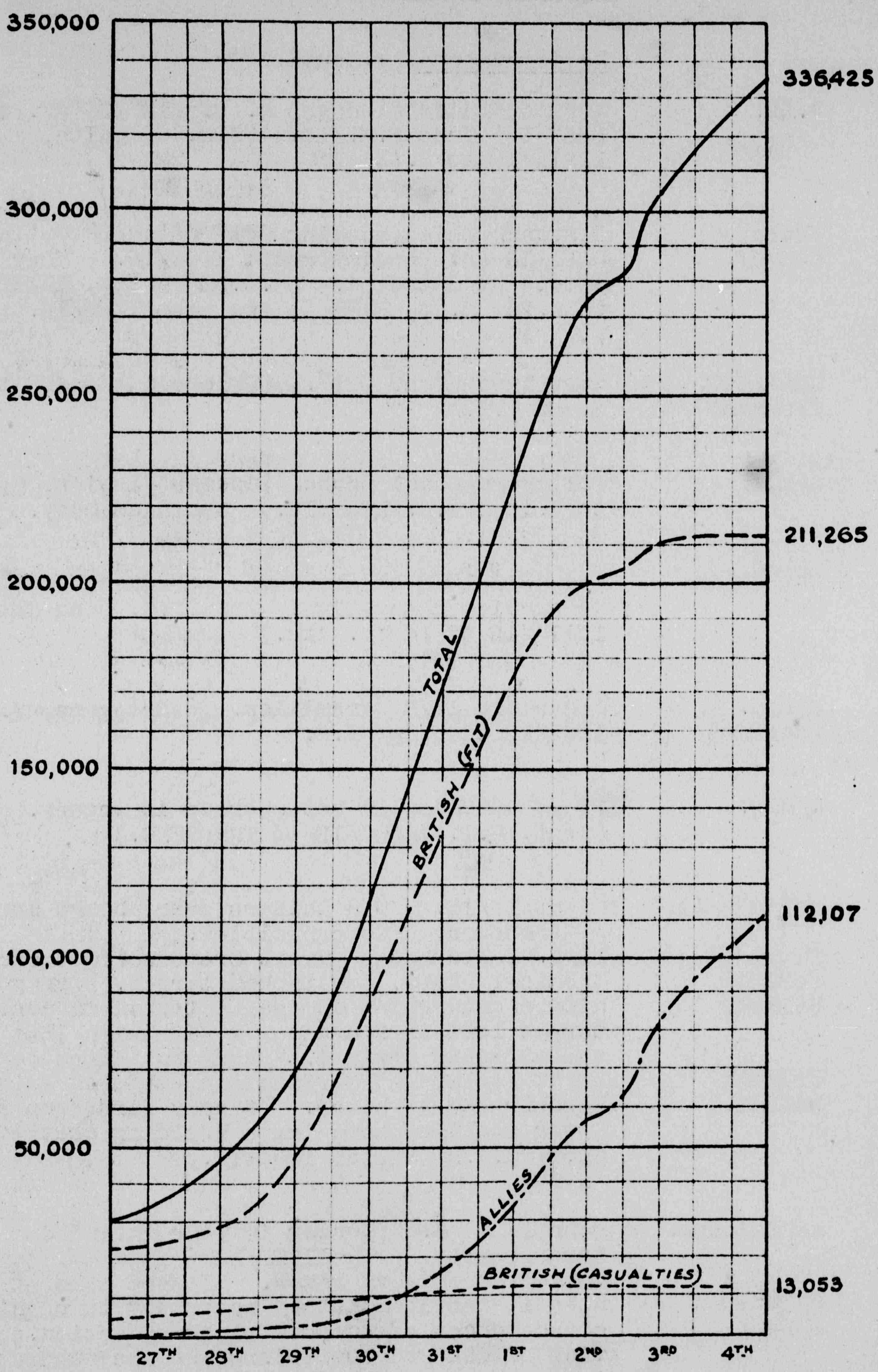
Mediterranean. - Contd.

P.32.	P.32 operates on coast E. of 013° 30' S. of 033° 10' from a.m./14. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1121B/12 to P.33.)
Vichy Convoy.	3 French Ships passing 041° 35' 010° 00' about 0001/14 and Messina about 1000/16. They are not to be attacked. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1131B/12 to O.23, O.24, URGE.) See also 1720/12.
SULLBERG. (German)	Left last night 0017. (Valencia 1200/12 to M. of W.T.)
Syria.	Policy re Jebel Druse. (Spears Mission, Syria, to C.in C.M.E. 1230/12.) See Lion Copy.
Abu Sueir Raid.	Air Raid 12/8 on Abu Sueir aerodrome 0330-0506. No service casualties. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1311C/12 to Admty. etc.)
ATLAS. (German)	Departure 11/8 Marseilles. (Cartagena, T.H.I. 1345/12 to M. of W.T.)
S/M's.	(? TETRARCH) will not operate in Aegean. (Capt. S.1. 1450C/12 to THRASHER.)
Malta Raid.	Night 11/12. 9/8 Raiders over, bombs damaged a Warehouse. No casualties.
Cotrone Cariati bombed.	11/8. 6 Blenheims Target Crotone (?Cotrone) Chemical Works, 3 attacked target. Many direct hits caused great damage to tanks and containers, target left in flames. 3 Blenheims lost way and attacked Cariati. Many buildings destroyed.
Tripoli bombed.	Night 11/12. 5 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli Harbour for 1½ hours. Steady fire seen near Power Station where large building destroyed. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/12.)
Ammunition.	Your 13020/6. Concur in your intended arrangements. My 1117B/19/5 is not intended to convey a contrary sense. It was sent at a time when it was immediately necessary to consider consequences of successful enemy action. In view of changed conditions and your expressed intentions my 1117B/19/5 is cancelled. (D.G.D. 1605A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

/Famagusta .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Famagusta Raid. Famagusta raided 0940 by 3 Savoia 81 or Cant 1007B. Difficult visibility. Medium height. Shore Battery did not open. DELPHINIUM arrived here (?arrives) about 20th. Fighters up but did not intercept. War effort unaffected. One schooner laden benzine and ready to sail damaged. Cargo being disembarked. In my opinion operation of fighters of R.A.F. detachment covering Famagusta is bound to be prejudiced until direct operational line is established between R.A.F. H.Q. Nicosia and detachment. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1613/12 to C. in C. Med.)

TAKU. Intend TAKU to leave Alexandria 1930C/13 for Rothesay in accordance with Admty. 1856B/6. V.A. Malta and F.O.C.N.A. are requested to -provide onward routeing instructions. (Capt. S.1. 1630C/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Operation "Guillotine" My 1147/9. On completion sloops 20 P and 21 P, JACKAL and KIPLING are to proceed to Port Said. N.O.I.C. Haifa pass to H.Q. P. and T.J.) (C. in C. Med. 1716C/12 to S. and A. Operation "Guillotine".)

Vichy Convoy. Convoy of interned Vichy occupied ships ex Beirut will leave Iskanderun 15/8 for Dardanelles. Convoy will be escorted throughout by Turkish Naval Auxiliary SUS and will be joined off Smyrna by Turkish gunboat NIZIR REIS. Both ships will fly Turkish Flags which will also be displayed on deck in two places. Convoy will keep to Turkish Territorial waters and should not be molested. (C. in C. Med. 1720C/12 to Med. Fleet amended 1730C/13.)

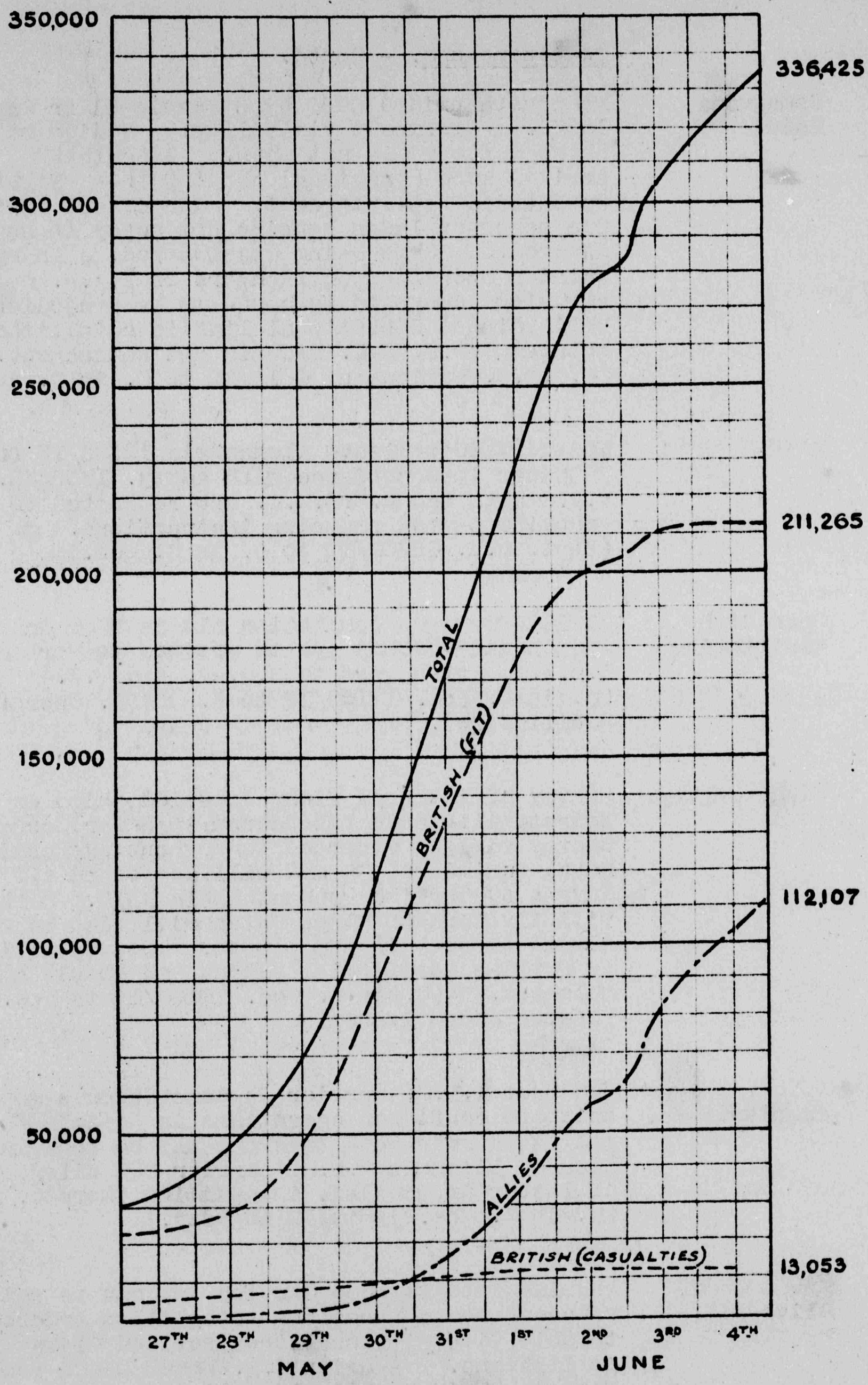
M.L.C. carrier. The fast M.L.C. carrier is considered a most suitable craft for operations in Eastern Med. and it is requested that one may be sent in lieu of 11 knots M.L.C. carrier CUM oiler, or if latter has sailed, in addition thereto. (C. in C. Med. 1802C/12 to Admty.)

MAURO CROCE Olive Oil. Spanish Intelligence Service informs me reliable source reports Barcelona Authorities ordered to ship Five Million Litres refined Olive Oil to Italians. Italian S.S. MAURO CROCE probable vessel. (N.A. Madrid, 1805/12 to D.N.I.)

/Syrian .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

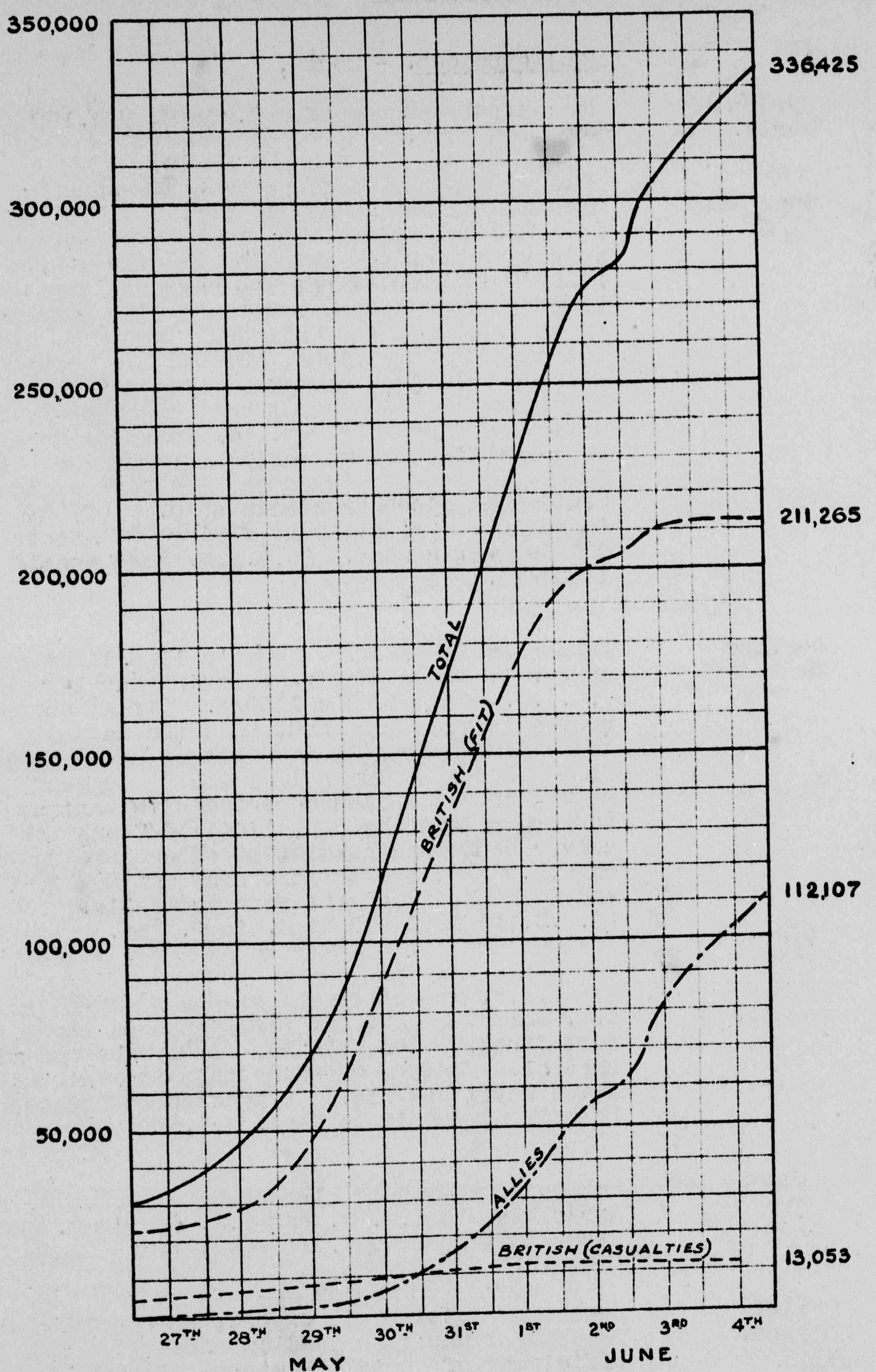
Mediterranean. - Contd.

Syrian Ports.	Re control and use of. (C. in C. M.E.1620/12.) See Lion Copy.
Suez Raid 11/8.	My 13190/11 and 19050/11, ref. C.A.F.O. 587. (a) 11/8 calm clear. (b) three wave attack mainly on American shipping at Attaqa Suez with other attack on Kabret and Shaloufa carried out by about 15 a/c high level and dive bombers, no flares, bright moonlight. (c) H.E. bombs incendiaries and mines. (d) all H.E. explosive and incendiaries, unknown. One parachute mine at kilos 129.7 500 yards west of channel, one suspected mine Suez Bay. (e) No naval damage or casualties slight engine room damage (?to) IBERVILLE due to (?unknown) D/A bomb exploding (?at) 0011 close proximity ship. (f) A/A guns in action. (g) balloons flying 3200 feet. (k) CARLISLE attendant. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1833C/12.)
Service Personnel, Convoy.	Proposals in P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1105/11 do not appear to clear requirements in your 1450/6 and F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1159/8. If an escorted convoy leaves Suez about 25/8 the majority of the ratings who will be relieved by arrivals from PULASKI could be included. Suggest NOVA SCOTIA should sail unescorted with maximum numbers allowed by A.M. 1744B/16/7 and that a convoy be formed consisting of ARUNDEL CASTLE ex W.S.9 (B), and if necessary MONARCH OF BERMUDA and ORONSAY. Request your proposals. (D.O.D.(F) 1921A/12 to C. in C. Med.)
TORBAY report.	For R.A.F. Two store ships, one damaged, arrived p.m. today. Last air raid produced large oil fuel fires. For TRIUMPH. Enemy use and sweep 311° channel. Intend watching this for returning ships until dusk/14. A/S measures increased. (TORBAY, 2059C/12 to Capt. S.1.)
COVENTRY.	Return forthwith to Alexandria. N.O.I.C. Palestin Ports pass to H.Q. P. and T.J. (C. in C. Med. 2138C/12 to COVENTRY.)
Soviet Forces.	Berthoud, British oil export, on recent visit to Sebastopol was impressed by discipline and efficiency of Soviet fleet and air arm. He was convinced claim to have sunk enemy submarine was well founded. (D.N.I. 2232A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

/Situation .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report.

"A" Lighter No.14 mined and sunk in Tobruk Harbour. 37 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi night 10/11. No further report of enemy supply ship. (C. in C. Med. 2344C/12 to Admty.)

East Indies.

LEANDER.

Following programme for LEANDER has been approved subject to your concurrence as regards visits to Australian Ports. (C. in C.E.I. 0646Z/12 to N.Z.N.B.)

C.M.15.

Cancel my 1525Z/11. Convoy has returned during the night owing to engine room defects to NIEUW AMSTERDAM. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0654Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.) See 1647/12, 2313/12.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Your 1105/11. Escort can be made available from Aden on 21/8. Relief escort will be provided from Mombasa to Durban. Request you will sail NOVA SCOTIA for Aden. Suggest ship calls at Mombasa opportunity being taken to convey personnel to East Africa and onwards to Durban. (C. in C.E.I. 0704Z/12 to D.S.T.O. Egypt.)

R.I.N. ships for Med.
ADRIA.

My 0625/11. Suggest S.S. ADRIA be considered, at present employed on Bombay Basra run now loading at Karachi. This also replies to D.S.T.2337/10 to P.S.T.O.I. (F.O.C. R.I.N. 1110Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

GIORGIOS AVEROFF.

My 1547B/26 Greek N.A. has informed Admty. that AVEROFF will be ready for sea and to carry out patrols in Indian Ocean by 20/8. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1524A/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

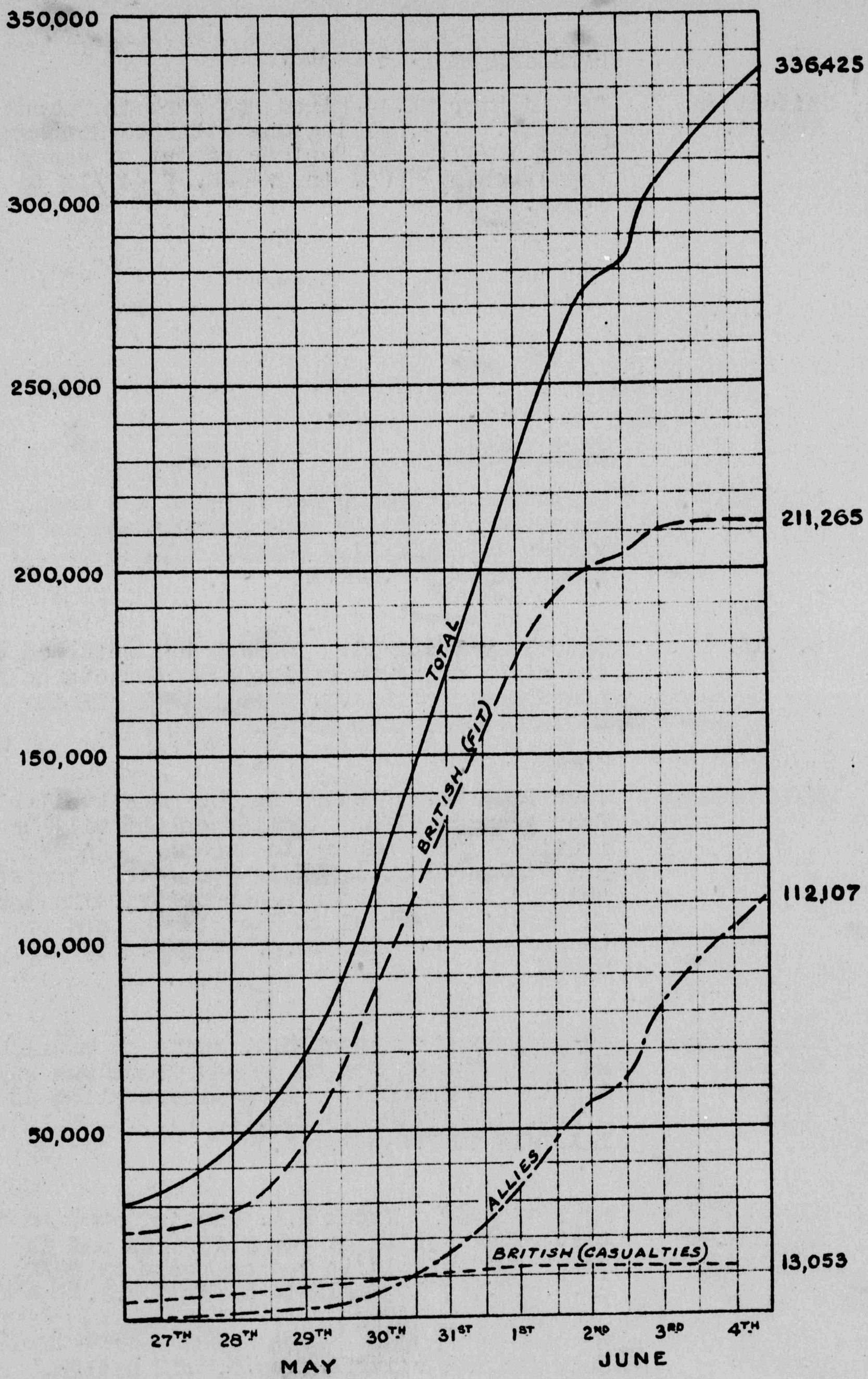
C.M.15.

CORNWALL escorting convoy C.M.15 sailed. E.T.A. position (h) C. in C.E.I. 0546Z/4 is 1400Z/19. CORNWALL intends leaving convoy at Perim. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1647Z/12 to C. in C.E.I. etc.)
My 1804/11, amend para.(2) to read 1700Z/12 and para (12) Suez due 22/8. (N.C.S.O. Durban 1728Z/12 to Admty. etc.)

/Large .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Large Liners, Suez. For information of other addressees, C. in C. Med's 11560/10 states inadvisable for giant liners to visit Gulf of Suez during moonlit periods. Suggest you consider informing N.O.I.C. Durban that convoy which his 06542/12 reports as delayed should sail by 15/8 in order that disembarkation may be completed by 31/8, even if this entails omitting NIEUW AMSTERDAM. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2313A/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

MOSEI. (German) FUSIJAMA. (Italian) Press message from Saigon suggests these ships which left Banghok will make for Saigon. Both believed to have had a Thai Customs official on board when they escaped. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

Thailand, Japan. F.E.W. 43. Thailand. No demands for military concessions believed yet made. British efforts being made to relieve acute oil shortage.
Indo China. Possibly 8 air Squadrons (4 fighter 4 bomber) now in country.
Japan. Japanese shipping services still further reduced. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 08212/12.)

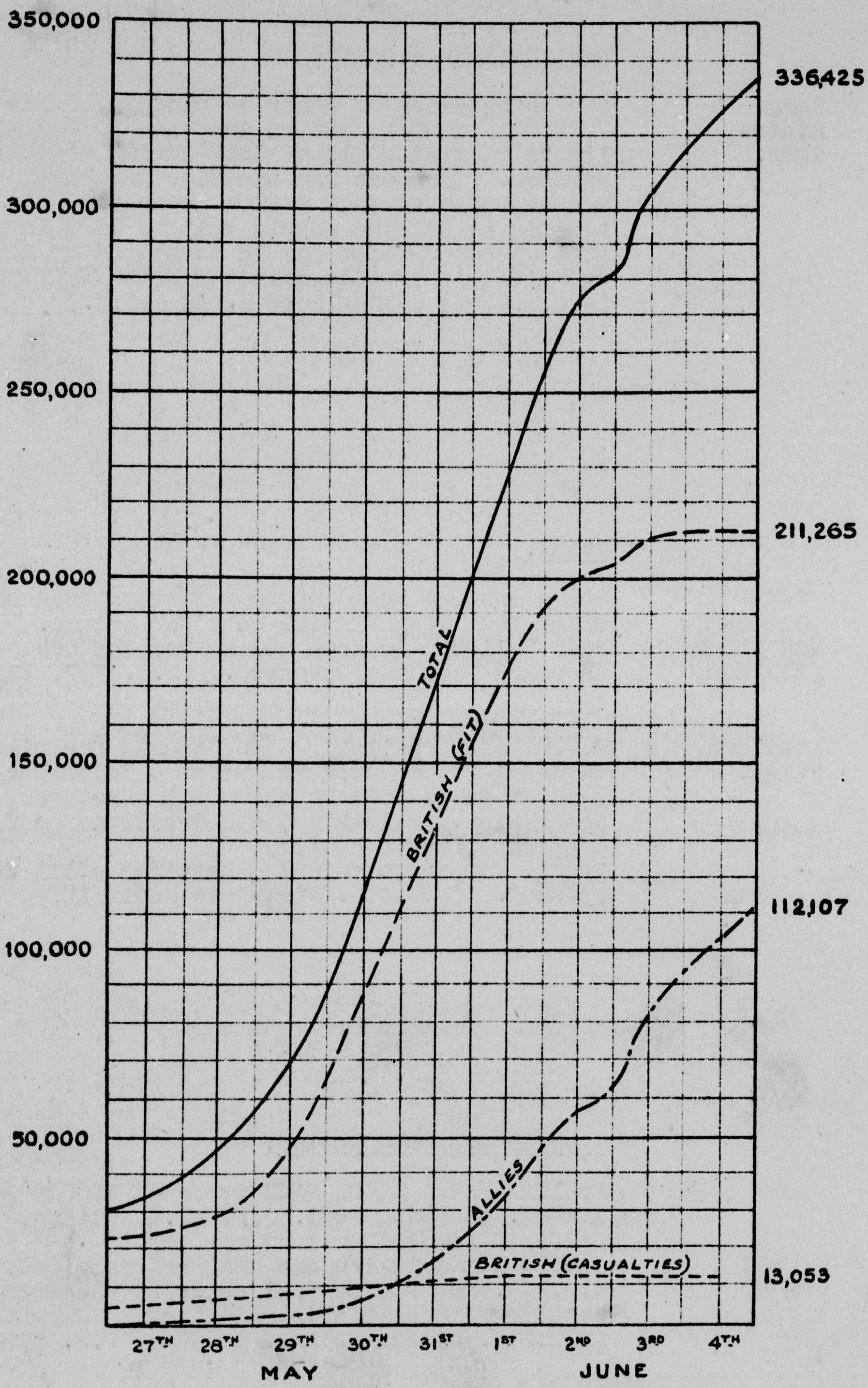
America and West Indies.

ASAMA MARU. My 19242/11. ASAMA MARU reported 1500/9 041° N. 176° W. steaming West. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 00062/12 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)
Sailed Honolulu 1/8 due San Francisco 6/8.
C.O.P.C. reports several successive bearings obtained indicate ship returning to Japan.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0515/12 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)

/NEWCASTLE .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

NEWCASTLE, MANCHESTER, FIREDRAKE. Can I be given approx. dates of arrival ? (B.A.R.M. 0913R/12 to Admty.)

DESPATCH, FORMIDABLE. My 2213Q/9. Leave patrol at your discretion after passing NORDENEY's farthest back position and return to Bermuda. If necessary to fuel before parting company from Oiler BISHOPDALE, vicinity of 007° N. 050° W. appears suitable from weather chart. Instruct BISHOPDALE to R/V with FORMIDABLE in 007° N. 050° W. at 0900 G.M.T./19 to fuel her. 2500 tons required. FORMIDABLE's attention is being called to method of fuelling stern on. On completion fuelling Oiler BISHOPDALE proceed to Trinidad. (C. in C.A.W.I. 0952Q/12 to DESPATCH.)

St. John's N.F. B.A.D. Washington's 1941R/10 to Admiralty only, and C.C.N.F's 1408Z/10, and related signals. Requirements outlined in my 0225B/5/7 still hold and scheme to provide them should proceed by stages in accordance with my 2208B/25/7. (Head of M. 1600A/12 to B.A.D. Washington etc.)

Mortier Bay. Your 1429Z/2/7. Decided not to proceed with project of erecting a D.F. Beacon, shore D.F. Station and shore W.T. Station at entrance of Mortier Bay. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1704A/12 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

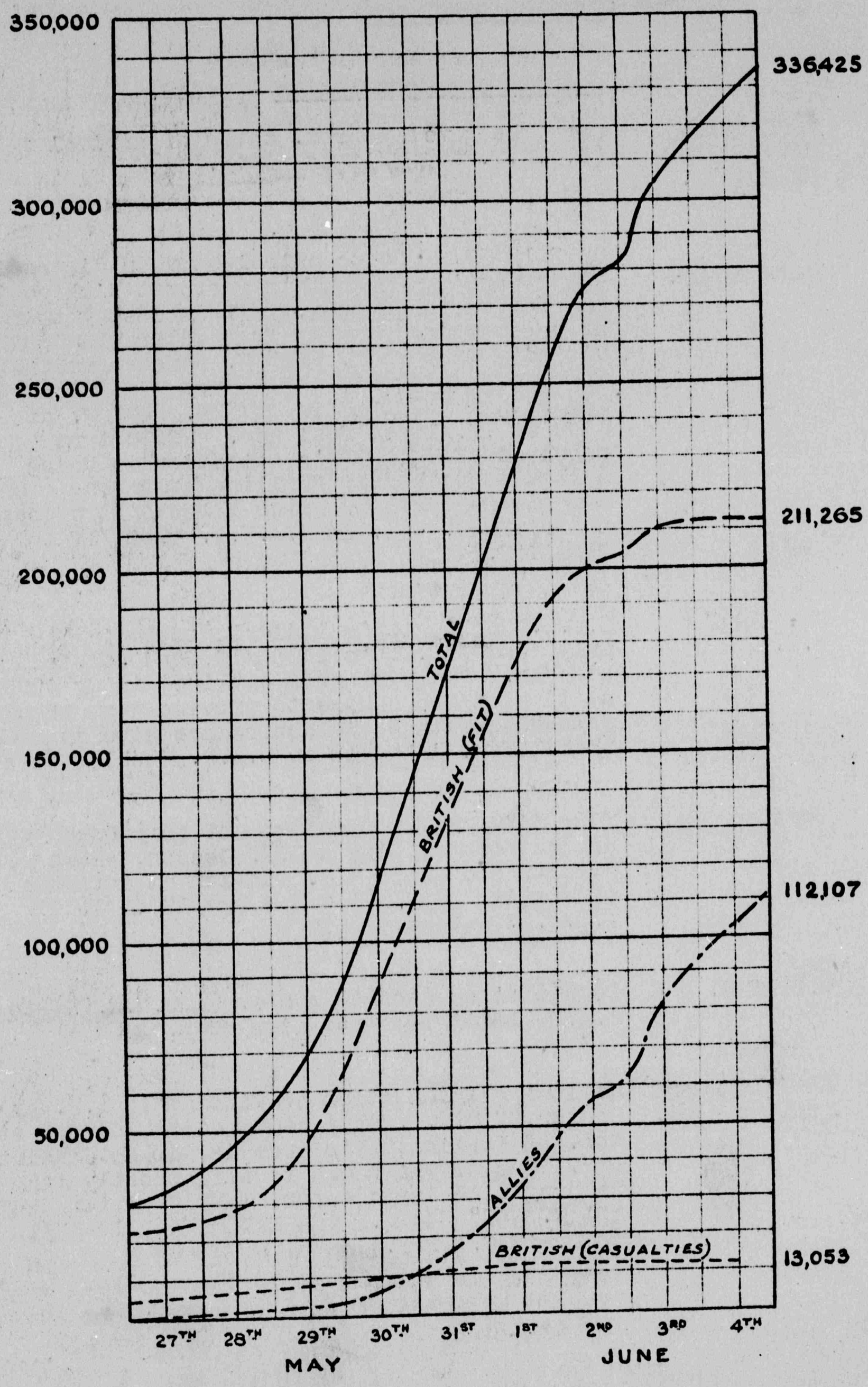
T.C.12 B. Composition, escort, route. (A.C.N.S.(H) to R.A.3, 1926A/12) See Lion Copy.

LE TRIOMPHANT. Italian M/Vs. Following information provided this A.M. by Master of U.S.A. ship ALCOE Pilot boarded at Sea. 3 Italian M/V's were in Rio de Janeiro 24/7, one of which was to sail shortly for Hamburg with large cargo. My position 024° 15' N. 069° 54' W. (LE TRIOMPHANT 1705Q/12 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

/A.M.C's .....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET

12.8.1941.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

A.M.C's Iceland Service. — Your 2234A/11. Number of personnel requiring passage will not decrease, therefore essential to maintain present sailing at 5 days' interval. Assumed A.M.C's will continue to sail in H.X. and O.N. convoys for A/S protection which will entail cycle of approx. 26 days. To meet these requirements minimum of nine A.M.C's will be necessary to allow for refit and seagoing repairs. If A.M.C's are sailed independently seven would be sufficient. (F.O. 3 B.S. 1709P/12 to Admty.)

MARISTON — Gases from cargo exploded hatches blown, some personnel injured, hospital. (C.O.A.C. 1801Z/12 to Admty. for Lloyds.)

Dutch Shipping. — My 10020/7/6. Dutch PRINSES JULIANA continues to sail between Paramaribo and Cayenne, last two trips having been made 23/6 and 27/7. In view of your 1722B/20/5 request information whether these visits are concurred in by Dutch Govt. (C. in C. A. and W.I. 18120/12 to Admty.)

HESPERUS — C.C.N.F's 1824Z/11. HESPERUS capable of ordinary convoy duty but requires early attention. (A.C.I.C. 2013/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. C.C.N.F.)

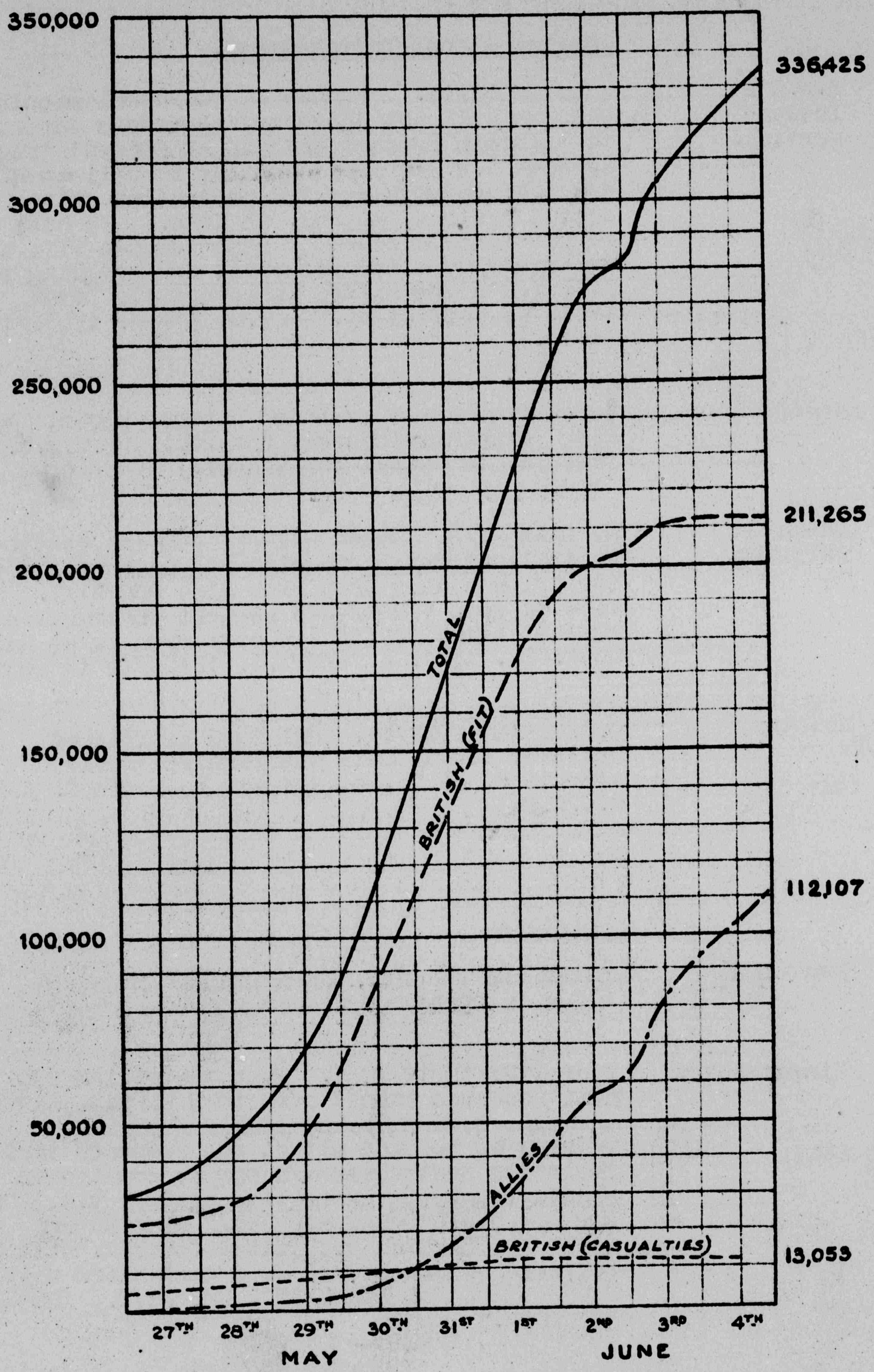
Australia

Convoys — Routes and escorts, Australia to Singapore. (A.C.N.B.,0924Z/12 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Minesweepers — Your 0121/15/12/1940. Four Australian M/S have now been turned over to U.K. viz. BATHURST, LISMORE, GOULBURN, and BURNIE.
In view of present situation, proposed that following Australian M/S now in commission should remain in Australian waters, viz. BENDIGO LITHGOW, MARYBOROUGH, MILDURA. BENDIGO and MARYBOROUGH which are fitted for U.K. will be relieved in due course by 2 Australian ships WARRNAMBOOL and DELORAINE. (A.C.N.B., 1445Z/12 to Admty.)

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

HORN SHELL (torpedoed 27/7.) — Nothing further heard. Presumed total loss. Torpedoed at 0100B/27 in 33.23 N., 22.18 W., 265' W., by N., of Madeira. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

Submarines Reported.

1950Z/11. — German U-Boat vicinity of 036° 40' N., 011° 00' W., at 1950Z/11 (F.O.C.N.A. 0037A/12 to N.A. Stn.)

2308 G.M.T. /11. — By D/F at 2308 G.M.T. U. boat in 50° 30'N., 14° 30'W. (D.D.I.C. 0049A/12.)

2217Z/11. — 2217Z/11 German U-Boats in vicinity 037° 30' N., 011°00' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0107A/12, to N.A.Stn.)

0012 G.M.T. — At 0012 G.M.T., German S/M bearing 297/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 0145A/12, to N.A.Stn.)

0013 G.M.T. H.G.70. — German U Boat has reported Convoy H.G.70 at 0013 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 0153A/12 to FAULKNOR, AVON VALE.)
My 0153A/12, further D/F bearings at 1025 G.M.T. indicate convoy H.G.70 is still being shadowed by U Boat.
(D.D.I.C. 1225A/12 to AVONVALE. FAULKNOR.)
Estimated U/B dispositions. Six or more near H.G.70 west of Cape St. Vincent.
(D.D.I.C. 1426A/12.)

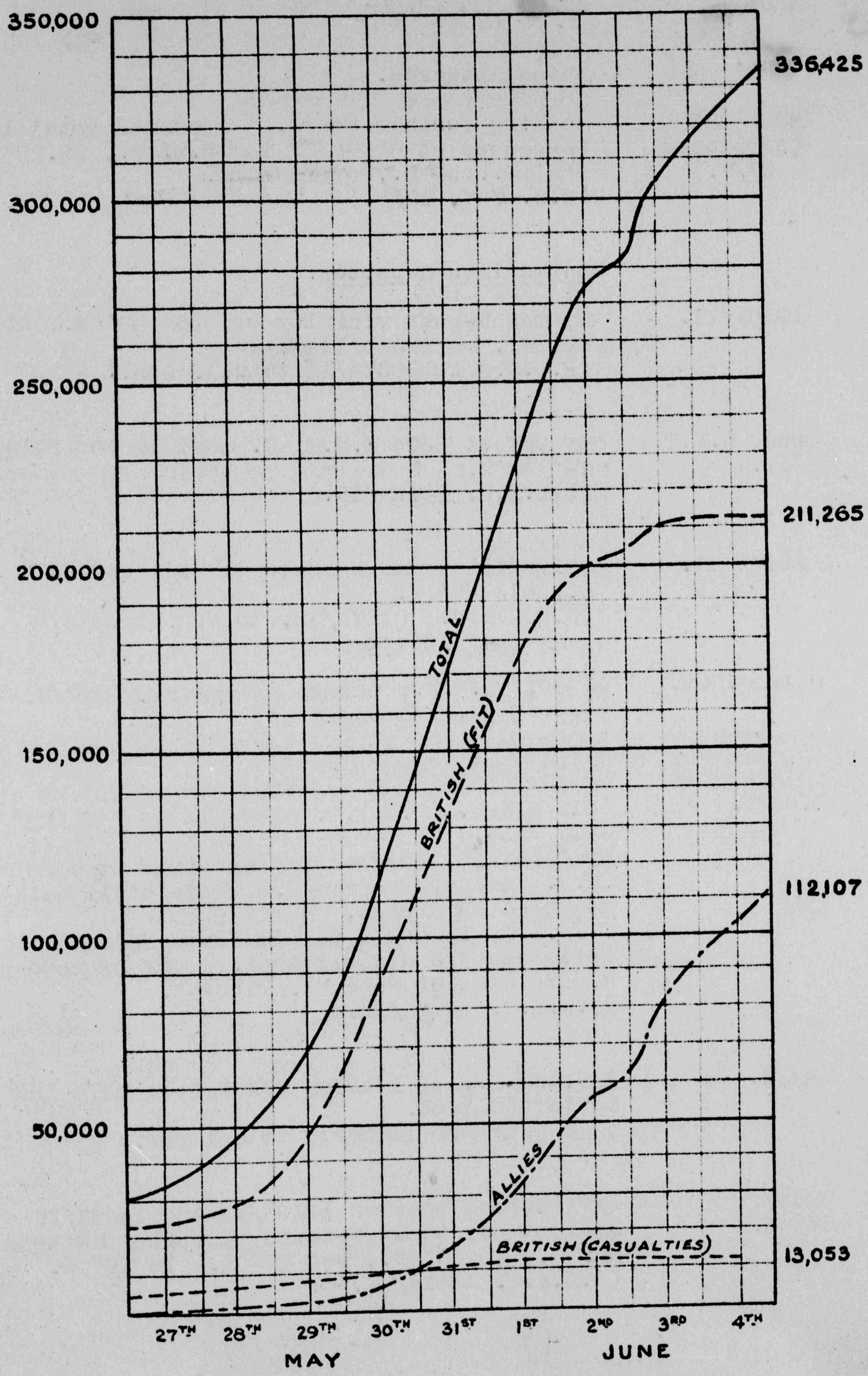
1445B. — P.C. and S., of 1 enemy S/M H.G.T. 0515 120 6 submerged 1426.
(A/C duty N., 1445B/12 to Hal Far.)

1318Z.- 1408Z. — D/F bearing between 1318Z/12 and 1408Z/12 indicate up to 12 U-Boats operating between 55° N., to 56° N., and 15° W., to 25° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1731A/12.)

1857G.M.T.....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

MOST SECRET.

12.8.1941.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

1857 G.M.T.. Italian S/M made enemy sighting report bearing 285° class one at 1857 G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2029A/12 to N.A. Stn.)

1857-1942. My 0153A/12 and 1225A/12. Further D/F bearings obtained between 1857/12 G.M.T. and 1942/12 G.M.T. indicate that convoy H.G.70 is being shadowed by 2 or more U-Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 2143A/12 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE.)

1933-1941 G.M.T. Two German U-boats made enemy sighting report at following times and bearings from Gibraltar (i) 1933 G.M.T., 300°/3 (ii) 1941 G.M.T. 280° /3.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2240B/12 to N.A. Stn., 2246B/12 to PARTHIAN.)

Submarines Attacked.

0750. By Blenheim A/C C.1404 at 0750/12, 47.43 N., 10.15 W., 250° Ushant 220', attacked with 2 A/S bombs. Co. 090? Stern still showing when second bomb dropped. (D.S.708.)

By LONDON 1410A. Large U/Boat sighted on surface in 040° 24' N., 029° 51' W. Dived shortly afterwards. Am shifting patrol 100 miles north westward.
(LONDON, 1410A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 1410A/12. U Boat bombed on surface by LONDON'S A/C and probably damaged at 1437A.
(LONDON, 1601A/12 to FO.C.N.A.)

By SEVERN 7/8. F.O.C.N.A. 2152B/12 amended 2346A/12.
See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

11 Wellingtons of Bomber Command attacked Le Havre last night with satisfactory results.

The weather severely curtailed operational flying today.

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. NORBRITT was bombed and machine gunned today off Tod Head and had one casualty.

A.P. Trawler LIBERATOR is reported to have engaged an enemy aircraft off Aldeburgh about 2300 today, when last seen, the aircraft was heading east in flames, the trawler was not damaged

Lowestoft and Ramsgate were bombed last night. No Naval damage was caused.

Mining.

3 Aircraft laid mines off Hangesund last night.

Faeroes schooner SJOBORG is reported to have been sunk at 1200 today in 61° 31' N., 5° 40' W, inside the prohibited area the existence of which was known to the skipper.

Enemy aircraft minelaying is suspected off Milford Haven.

Mines were detonated today off Liverpool and St. Ann's Head.

MOST SECRET.

13.3.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Convoys.

It is intended to amend the cycle of North American convoys (O.N., O.N.(S), H.X., S.C.) The cycle of H.G. and O.G. convoys is also to be altered.

South Atlantic.

A Vichy convoy of 5 ships escorted by a Colonial class sloop was sighted at 0640Z today in 11° 21' N., 18° 9' W., steering 200°.

Mediterranean.

O.24 operating in the western Mediterranean reports that she has sunk by torpedo a 5,000 ton fully laden supply ship (in 41° 47' N., 12° 5' E) and a sailing vessel believed 1,000 tons (in 41° 23' N., 12° 27' E).

Libya & Western Desert.

4 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night and reported the railway station destroyed.

H.M.S. KEPHALONIA (Schooner on Western Desert, service) foundered at 1300 today whilst carrying stores to Tobruk in 31° 7' N., 29° E., after springing a leak.

6 aircraft armed with bombs and torpedoes were despatched last night to attack a submarine reported in Bardia harbour and believed they damaged the enemy. Bardia town and Derna were also bombed.

/Suez Canal.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.3.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Canal Area. — There was an air raid on the Canal area in the early hours of today. No damage to shipping or Naval damage occurred.

TARVISIO. — It is reported that Turkey has refused return passage through the Dardanelles for the Italian auxiliary TARVISIO which arrived at Chanak from the Aegean on 10/8. The vessel is reported by the Turks to be without arms.

HASTY reported being bombed at 0235 South of Crete. No details are known.

East Indies.

C. in C. E.I., reports that he has little doubt that French S/Ms are being used to run the blockade from Madagascar to Jibuti.

America & West Indies.

Investigatinn of the anchorage at Easter Island has failed to disclose the presence of a German raider which was reported on 26/7 to be lying up there awaiting spares carried by a Japanese ship.

Port Christobal, at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal is now closed daily from 1800 to 0600.

U-Boat Campaign.

H.G.70 — Aircraft escort this morning attacked two shadowing U-boats, one large and one small, and considers he damaged both of them badly. The convoy is to be re-routed from 41° N., 16° 30' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

MALAYA. H.G.C.1. While MALAYA is attached to Home Fleet for working up she will form part of the 2nd B.S. and be administered by the V.A. 2nd in Cd. (C. in C. H.F., 1630A/13).

Convoy C.E. 45. Anti-E-Boat Measures. A conference took place at Dover today to consider anti E Boat measures for C.E. 45.
2. Request following instructions may be given to escorts, minesweepers, and Commodore.
(a) Convoy not to be ahead of timetable until Dumpton Buoy is passed.
(b) Balloons to be close hauled on passing Beachy Head unless air attack takes place.
(c) Stationing of escorts at dark is to be as follows.
3. If E-boats are detected or attack takes place destroyers are to concentrate forthwith and endeavour to chase. If M.L.'s part company to engage the enemy they are to keep clear of the convoy until daylight. (C. in C. Nore, 2124A/13 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Attempts by Vichy Forces to re-capture British Prizes. My 1407/10/1 and my 0130/4/7. General Policy and clarification of details. (1st S.L. 2228A/13) See Lion Copy.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Task Force 16. My 1045B/28/7. Remainder of Task Force sixteen comprising 1 Battleship, five destroyers, and four Fleet Auxiliaries left Iceland 1800 G.M.T./12 on reverse track for Point Cast. Speed of advance 14 knots. (D.O.D. H., 2347A/13).

Movements.

S/M O.10. Cancel my 1700A/12. (WESTERN ISLES, 0855A/13).

PROTEUS. Have anchored undamaged 340° Baron Point 2 miles waiting for visibility to improve. (PROTEUS, 0930 A/13).

DUKE OF YORK. A.M. 1857A/11 has been passed to C. in C. Rosyth. (D.O.D.,H. 1200A/13).

THORN. Intend sailing THORN 1200A/19. Request escort for passage to Clyde and during diving trials. Escort to R/V at Bar L.V. 1400A/19. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1203A/13).

/Your.....

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

THORN - Contd. Your 1203A/13. Escort will be provided and R/V at time stated. (S.3. 1642A/13 to R.O.I.C. Liverpool).

RENOWN. Speed is to be adjusted to anchor below bridge not before 0730A/14. (C. in C. H.F. 1208A/13 to RENOWN).
Anchor in A.3 berth on arrival, proceeding B.6. berth when able to pass under Forth Bridge. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2242/13 to RENOWN).

HESPERUS, RAMILLIES. Report whether HESPERUS is fit to escort RAMILLIES. (C. in C. W.A., 1436A/13 to A.C.I.C.)
Reply. Yes. (N.O.I.C. Iceland(C) 1905/13).

S/M O.14. Sailed from Lerwick at 1500 to 060° 5' N., 0° 40' W. thence routed through 060° 42' 30" N., 000° 18' W. (A.C.O.S., 1545A/13).

Steaming performances. Steaming performances of VANQUISHER, WESTCOTT, BIDEFORD, DEPTFORD, ANEMONE, AURICULA, BEGONIA, MARIGOLD and WALLFLOWER during past three months reflect special credit on all concerned. (C. in C. W.A., 1631A/13).

REPULSE, ACTIVE, INGLEFIELD. ACTIVE may be delayed sailing until about two hours after REPULSE proceeds. INGLEFIELD is to remain with screen until relieved by ACTIVE. (R.A.D. H.F., 1755/13).
Cancel my 2337/10. REPULSE P.V. chain carried away and ship will be delayed sailing until new one is rove when weather moderates. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2227/13).
REPULSE delayed sailing. INGLEFIELD to commence boiler cleaning. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2242/13 to RENOWN).

Task force 16. Left Iceland 1800/12. (D.O.D. H., 2347A/13)
See Co-operation with U.S.A.

Operations.

SOKOL, SEALION, (Operation FOLLOW). (a) SOKOL after passing 46° N., 06° W., proceed to patrol in Bay of Biscay south zone. S.B.R. in force in Area 56 and in Area 54 and 55 both south of 46° 30' N.
(b) SEALION leave patrol through 46° N., 04° W. so as to carry out operation FOLLOW in Biscay north zone on 16/8. Note that all times quoted in the orders for operation FOLLOW are zone minus 2 and be prepared for one passenger. Proceed subsequently to Portsmouth as ordered by S.5 S.B.R. arranged in whole of area 54 and 55 east of 06° 30' W., from 0800/15 till 0200/18 (F.O.S., 1124A/13).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. ICE/W1 13/8. STANDARD covered from 0400 G.M.T. till 1600 G.M.T. BROOM and ROMAN covered. IMAGOG still not met. Datum GFYE 0000 (R.A.F., Iceland, 0120/13 to 15 Group)

Bombing operations over Germany. On day 12/8. (H.Q.B.C., 0420/13) See Lion Copy. On night 12/13. (H.Q.B.C., 1429/13) See Lion Copy.

Halifax 11, A/C. Halifax 11 Aircraft coming into service on 16/8/41. At first may be seen in North Western Areas. Description. Inform all Pilots and A.A. Defences. (V.A. N.A.S., 1216A/13).

Enemy Air Activity.

Lowestoft, bombed. Lowestoft bombed by single A/C at 0151A. A to D. nil, (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0229A/13).

Ramsgate bombed. At 2359A/12 and again at 0025A/13. A number of bombs were dropped at Ramsgate. No damage to Admiralty personnel or property. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0315A/13).

EAGLESCLIFF HALL, (bombed 12/8). My 2312/12. Fire extinguished. Entered Sunderland 0600(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0605/13).

VOLESUS (Trawler) attacked. EMPIRE FISHER (Trawler) damaged. VOLESUS and EMPIRE FISHER attacked by Single aircraft, Heinkel 111, in 063° N., 005° 50' W., at 1350A/12. One serious casualty in EMPIRE FISHER which was slightly damaged. No casualties or damage in VOLESUS. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 0955A/13).

Unknown Vessel. AAAA Four Miles off Aberdeen. (Lyness, T.O.R. 1409/13).

NORBRITT (British 287 tons) attacked. S.S. NORBRITT reports being attacked by one A/C in approx. 045°. Tod Head 5 miles. One casualty from Machine Gun. 5 bombs dropped. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1420/13).

A/C over orkneys. A/C was heard to cross Flow soon after 1421. Heavy low cloud. Not considered that A/C could have seen into Flow. (A.C.O.S., 1642/13).

LIBERATOR. (M/S Trawler) Engaged an enemy A/C at about 2300/13 off Aldeburgh. No damage to Trawler, and A/C last seen heading East in Flames. (D.O.R., 13/8).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Milford Haven.

Following from POZARICA passed to you for information begins. C. in C. W.A. repeated N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, SUTLEJ from POZARICA. Suspect possibility of enemy aircraft minelaying in vicinity of S.G. two buoy 0003A ends. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0143A/13 to STORK). Ground mine self-detonated in 101° St. Anns Head Light twelve cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1731A/13).

S.N.70 A.

Propose sailing for operation S.N.70 A with SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN and NEWARK at 1630/18 and laying between following positions A.M.20th. Time of return to port ZA 0530/22.
Consider additional A/A support unnecessary but request operation may be covered against attack by surface vessel. (R.A.M., 1224/13).

Jettison of mines.

N.O. WELSHMAN's NO.03 of 25th July 1941 paragraph 6 (11) and A.L. M. 011702/41 of 5/8. Propose mines be jettisoned in Q Z S 243 itself in order to avoid ship leaving searched waters, and to avoid ship steaming against traffic. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1736/13).

Sweep of St. George's Channel.

All available ships of 9th and 13th. Minesweeping Flotillas are to be sailed under orders of S.O. so as to fix their position on old Head of Kinsale at Dawn 15/8.
2. Flotillas are then to carry out a 50% searching sweep on one side of a six mile wide channel, whose centre line extends between.
(a) 51° 35' N., 08° 00' W.
(b) 51° 43' N., 07° 29' 30" W.
(c) 51° 58' N., 06° 15' W.
At dawn the following day, they are to sweep a second lap on the other side of the channel.
5. Even in the event of bad weather, every effort must be made to complete it by the night of 17/8.
7. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to arrange air protection during passage to and from and during this operation. (A.C.N.S. H., 1754A/13).

Liverpool.

1 magnetic mine detonated by L.L. in position 2½ miles 220° Bar Light Vessel at 1500A/13. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1844A/13).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Recognition Signals. — Your 1450/8. Consider (1) impracticable owing to necessity for aircraft and minor war vessels to exchange recognition signals. (11) is therefore selected in order to safeguard private signals. (C. in C. H.F., 1232A/13 to Admty).

Casualties & Defects.

LOBELIA. — E.T.A. Greenock a.m./16. Both boilers salted up. Estimated time to make good and test 7 days. Dockyard assistance required. (WESTERN ISLES, 1815A/13).

Shipping & Convoys.

EMPRESS OF CANADA. — Will return to Clyde 14/8 where she will have to disembark all personnel and most of her stores etc. Probable number to embark is 600. (D.S.T., 0216A/13 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland.)

W.S.11. PASTEUR. — My 0446/7. Due Clyde 14/8. with total of 1829 personnel. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1142/11 reports defects, and estimates three to four weeks required. If this confirmed vessel cannot be included in W.S.11. Request report whether this work is essential. (D.S.T., 0219A/13 to P.S.T.O., W. Scotland).

W.S.11 EMPIRE PRIDE, BANFORA, NORTHUMBERLAND — My 0446/7 and 0329/8 (Embarkation changes) EMPIRE PRIDE and BANFORA will not now be ready for inclusion in convoy W.S.11. (D.S.T., 0220A/13 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland). My 0446/7. NORTHUMBERLAND due Liverpool about 17/8. with following personnel etc. on board. Request report as to sea speed which vessel will be able to maintain. Also confirmation that vessel will be ready for W.S.11. (D.S.T., 0221A/13 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool).

East Coast Convoys. — Code words allocated. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1121/13) See Lion Copy.

Force 111. — Movements intended for 13/8, EMPRESS OF CANADA, etc. (V.A.C.T.C., to SO.I.C. Greenock, 1018A/13). See Lion Copy.

H.X. 142. S.C. 39. — H.X. 142 and S.C. 39 are to split at 1600A/13. KEPPEL detail SABRE, SHIKARI, HEBE and HAZARD to transfer to H.X. 142. (C. in C. W.A., 1058A/13 to KEPPEL, BOADICEA).

/AMSTERDAM.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

AMSTERDAM, LADY OF MANN. — Intend sailing with approx 1800 troops escorted by SOUTHDOWN at 0200/14. (route) E.T.A. Lerwick 1330/14. Request Air Protection. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1159/13 to C. in C. Rosyth).

H.G. 70 — Admiralty propose to re-route H.G.70 on course north from position 41.00 N., 16.30 W., provided air escort is available. Proposed that Home bases provide escort from position 43.50 N., 16.30 W. at 0200/15. Can you provide escort to latter position? (H.Q.C.C., 1245/13 to 200 Group) See also North Atlantic.

H.X.142. — Dispersal orders given in Admty 1443/29 para 4 are to be altered as follows. Departure position for South Atlantic Ships should read X and for Cabot Straits Y. (C. in C. W.A., 1246A/13 to RAMSEY for Commodore).

STRATHEDEN. — Sailed U.K./8/8 for Halifax with Service personnd on board, will be included in T.C. 12 B., for return voyage to U.K. (D.S.T., 1327A/13 to N.S.H.O. Ottawa).

W.S. 11. PASTEUR, ORONTES, LEOPOLDVILLE. — My 0446/7. Most unlikely that PASTEUR can now be included in W.S. 11. Proposed that ORONTES be included. Her code number will be C.17. LEOPOLDVILLE will return to Clyde from D.S.10 about 28/8. and is being regarded as a reserved ship for W.S.11. (D.S.T., 1328A/13 to P.S.T.O., W Scotland).

Convoy Cycles. — For ON., O.N.(S), H.X., S.C., H.G. and O.G. Convoys. Alterations. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1400A/13 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., C.C.N.F.) See Lion Copy.

Convoy Routes. — Amendment No. 31 to Admty 0001/1/5. (D.T.D., 1824A/13) See Summaries Folder.

Iceland, tankers. — Your 1743B/3. Intended to sail empty British tankers destined to load in Iceland in O.N. convoys, part of the escort being detached with tankers to proceed to Hvalfiord. This escort will then return with loaded British tankers joining the corresponding H.X. or S.C. convoy for passage to U.K. Reduction in the strength of the escort remaining with the O.N. convoys will be unavoidable but the situation will be kept constantly under review. (C. in C. W.A., 1910A/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping.

Passings 14/8. French westward OUET TIFFETZ, ILE ROUSSE, full, PENERF in ballast with covered deck cargo. (V.A.C.N.A., 0919A/13 to Admty.)

H.G.70.

Your 2328B/12 and my 0221A/13. Regret no Destroyers available. (C. in C. W.A., 0930A/13 to F.O.C.N.A).
Your Ops. 878, 13/8. No. Can only escort until 1600/14. (200 Group, 1420/13 to H.Q.C.C).
My 2328B/12. As Convoy is still being shadowed by S/MS am sending DUNCAN to join first light 15/8 Should be able to remain with the Convoy until your local escorts are met and will then have to fuel at Londonderry. Request DUNCAN be sent back forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 1502A/13 to C. in C. W.A).
Following for LADY SHIRLEY from F.O.C.N.A. at prudent limits of endurance part company from H.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar (route) Report P.C. and S. when within W/T Range Gibraltar -1525 (ends) (F.O.C.N.A. 1537A/13 to Escort H.G. 70).
Departure DUNCAN in accordance with my 1502A/13. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642A/13 to C. in C. W.A.
Your ops. 878, 13/8. Can now maintain escort only until 1100/14 owing to aircraft damaged in air combat today. (200 Group, 1805/13 to H.Q.C.C).
Most Important you give protection between 1600 and dusk 14/8 if any way possible. Impracticable from U.K. Can you adjust your patrol accordingly? (H. Q.C.C. 2003/13 to 200 Group)
Your 1502A/13. I am most grateful. DUNCAN will return as soon as possible after refuelling. (C. in C. W.A., 2255A/13 to F.O.C.N.A).

17th M.L. Flot.

My 1140A/12. Sailing delayed 24 hours. (F.O.C.N.A., 1148A/13 to C. in C. S.A).

RENOWN, Portuguese President.

Admty. 2232B/7. President of Portugal was intercepted in 037° 42' N. 018° 51' W. at 1835/9 and saluted with 21 guns. (RENOWN, 1158/13 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A).

/FRANKFURT.....

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

FRANKFURT boat's crew.	Reported that a Boat crew of Armed German survivors from FRANKFURT scuttled in 031° 34' N. 037° 42' W. on 4/8 refused to be picked up. British, Allied, or Neutral Ship who may rescue them will be liable to capture unless precautions are taken. (F.O.C.N.A. 1535A/13 to N.A. Stn).
LADY HOGARTH.	Is on patrol vicinity 036° 42' N. 002° 43' W. Set normal watch on 46.9 k/cs 24 hours before arrival. (F.O.C.N.A. 1706A/13 to S/M O.24).
Spain.	Intelligence. (H.Q. Gibraltar, to S. of S. for Colonies, 1840/13) See Lion Copy.
Force H.	Intend proceeding to sea in NELSON with ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE 6 Destroyers p.m./14 for 48 hours for practice and flying training. (F.O. Force H., 1847A/13 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

Suspicious Ship.	One ship burning searchlight and one other ship sighted in 000° 02' N. 037° 00' W. at 2230Z. Proceeded to investigate no contact made. (ORION, 0102Z/13 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. S.A. 0321N/13 to PRETORIA CASTLE and 0401N/13 to R.A.S.A.D). ORION's 0102Z/13. Appears likely that this was portion of TASK Force III mentioned in A.T. 1142A/11 para. 2. (D.O.D. (F) 1330A/13 to C. in C. S.A).
COMMANDANT DUBOC. (Free French)	Sailed. E.T.A. Simonstown 0600 G.M.T/16. S. of A. 14 knots. Routed R2. (N.L.O. Durban 1115Z/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown) W.D. Note:- Proceeding U.K. via Pointe Noire and Lagos after repairs.

/PETER.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

PETER KERR.	My 1825A/12. Arrived Capetown. (D.D.I.C. 1116A/13 to C. in C. H.F., etc.)
Vichy Ships.	Your 1945/26. Policy.(Head of M. approved 1st Lord, 1336A/13 to C. in C. S.A). See Lion Copy.
Free French Forces.	Your 1715/9/8. LEOVILLE has been paid off. 2 colonial corvettes and 2 submarine chasers will be allocated to French Equatorial Africa in October. (Adm. Comdg. F.N.F.L. 1648A/13 to F.N.F.L. Pointe Noire).
PULASKI accommodation.	My 1534/29. On departure PULASKI from Capetown reported epidemic of influenza and ship subsequently proceeded to Durban at 2230/2 to land 14 undiagnosed cot cases of which four serious and one died. N.O.I.C. Durban decided to remove 300 Naval Ratings to improvise temporary expansion of sick quarters and ship proceeded 0800/3 with convoy. Cases subsequently diagnosed as malaria. No anti-malaria measures had been adopted. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1837B/13 to D. of S.T.)
W.S.10. C.M.17. C.M.18.	Proposals for on-carriage of troops to Suez. (D.S.T., 2223A/13 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown). See Lion Copy.
Vichy Convoy.	Five ships escorted by Colonial class sloop sighted in 11° 21' N. 18° 09' W. course 200° speed 9 knots at 0640Z/13/8. (S.O.I. Freetown 2335N/13 to Admty.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SULLBERG German.	Arrival Sagunto 7/8. (Valencia 0018/13 to M. of W.T).
Service Personnel.	List of ships which can be used for service personnel returning to U.K. (D.S.T. 0055A/13 to P.S.T.O. Egypt etc.) See Lion Copy.
BATHURST. LISMORE.	To join East Indies. (V.C.N.S., 0101A/13) See East Indies.
HASTY bombed.	Enemy aircraft bombing (or have dropped bombs) bearing 296° 32° N., 25° E. 35. (HASTY 0235/13 to Alexandria).
KANDAHAR bombed.	Enemy bombing. Am 25 minutes ahead of time. (KANDAHAR 04550/13 to 201 Group).
CEPHALONGA.	Two tugs are searching for CEPHALONGA locate and divert. (A/C call sight C8J 0825/13 to Sqdn. Med.). (KEPHALONIA ? see 2305/13).
German A/C in Turkey 11/8.	Graded C3. 2 German aircraft shot down by Turkish gun fire at Filta, Burnu, 11/8. Both pilots saved. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 0915/13 to S.O.I. Med.). N.I.D. Comment. "Filta Burnu" is probably "Fil Burnu" on the north eastern side of the Bosperus (41.12N - 29.07E).
COVENTRY.	Your 2138/12. COVENTRY sails Beyrout 1230/13. E.T.A. Alexandria 1030/14 Boom 1115/14. (N.O.I.C. Syria 09250/13 to C. in C. Med.)
Red Cross Transport.	Your No. 1881, 4/8 to F.O. (N.T. in W.D). No objection to these proposals. I assume I shall be kept equally informed of dates and route to be followed. Question of whether Dr. Junod should go (? in) Turkish (? ship) or no I will leave to Ambassador to decide. (C. in C. Med., 09510/13 to Ambassador, Angora).
Operation "Guillotine".	Serial 21P. Local arrangements. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 09550/13 to HOBART).

/Prisoners.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Prisoners of war ex-HEREWARD etc.	Information has been received that the following officers ex HEREWARD are prisoners of war. Was this information already known. (C. in C. Med. 10460/13 to Adty.
Abu Sueir, Alexandria bombed, 12/13.	Abu Sueir night 11/12. (damage). Night 12/13. 6 enemy A/C bombed Abu Sueir. 4 our A/C destroyed, 4 damaged. (H.Q. R.A.F.M.E. 1046/13).
Bardia Derna bombed.	Following details cancel reported attack on Petrol Tanker Bardia 10/8. 11 Marylands detailed to attack Tanker reported to be in Bardia attacked other targets on being unable locate tanker. Night 11/12. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna and Bardia some bombs straddled Derna Mole. Hits on supply centre and barracks Bardia. 6 Blenheims bombed both Gazala landing grounds.
Enemy S/M.	Day 12/8. 2 Marylands located enemy S/M off Ras El Milh but were unable to attack owing to strong escort of enemy fighters. S/M was believed to be again located at Midnight in Bardia Harbour with Lighter alongside and a striking force was despatched. Results of attack awaited.
Nicosia bombed.	Cyprus, Day 12/8. 5 enemy A/C bombed Nicosia Aerodrome. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1048/13).
TORBAY. TAKU.	TAKU passes through 034° 06' 023° 44' on course 280° at about 2359/16. Keep well clear to northward. (Capt. S.1., 11200/13 to TORBAY).
Iran.	Situation Report. (M.A. Teheran to W.O., 1136/13). See Lion Copy.
URGE URSULA.	My 1352/6 Leave area N by 0001/15 and operate in area M until (? P.M.)/18 returning by reverse route to arrive Malta 0700/20. URSULA arrives area N (?P.M.)/15. (Cdr. S.1. 1150B/13 to URGE). Your 2130B/13 acknowledged. Keep to eastward of 015° 20' until 0001/15. URSULA passes 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2300/14. (S.O. (S) Malta 2311B/13 to URGE).

/RORQUAL.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

RORQUAL.	Your 17170/11 RORQUAL arrived with several engine defects. Estimate date sailing 20/8. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1225B/13 to Capt. S.1).
KANDAHAR.	Intend to proceed Tobruk in KANDAHAR (? Group omitted) 1530/14. (S.O. Force "I" at Mersa Matruh 13410/13 to C. in C. Med.)
OTUS.	Safety route is established for OTUS leaving Alexandria P.M./13 to arrive Malta A.M. /20 (route). No Submarine is to be attacked on this route. OTUS cannot burn identification flares. (Capt. S.1. 13500/13 to Med Fleet).
TARVISIO.	My 1715/10 para. B. TARVISIO will not be allowed to proceed Chanak, Indications she will re-enter Aegean within 24 hours. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 14450/13 to S.O.I. Med.) My 10200/11 TARVISIO expected to re-enter Aegean from Chanak within 24 hours. (Capt. S.1. 21450/13 to THRASHER).
HANS SCHMIDT German.	Departure 12/8 Genoa. (Barcelona 1500/13 to M. of W.T.)
Iron Traffic.	My 1835/6. 27000 tons have been exported in four weeks. Negotiations in progress to contract for 50,000 tons per month and more ships to be added to present Fleet. (N.A. Madrid, 1707/13 to Admty.)
Suez Raid 12/8.	My 15110/12. Ref. C.A.F.O. 587 (a) 12/8 calm clear (b) 8 enemy A/C medium level and shallow dive bombing on Abu Sueir aerodrome J.U. 88, 0311-0506. No flares, clear moonlight. (c) H.E. and incendiary; (d) about 50 bombs (e) No naval damage or casualties (f) One unsuccessful fighter interception (g) Balloon about 3200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 17240/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.).
Tripoli bombed.	4 Wellingtons dropped 8000 BS G.P. bombs and 4800 incendiaries.on Tripoli. Railway Station destroyed. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1730/13).

/Vichy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Vichy Convoy. Convoy of interned Vichy ships leaving Iskanderun 13/8 for Dardanelles escorted by Turkish Naval Auxiliary SUS and will be joined off Smyrna by Turkish Gunboat NIZIR REIS. Both escorts flying Turkish Flags and Convoy will keep to Turkish Territorial Waters. Do not molest. (Capt. S.1., 17300/13 to Greek SuB. NEREUS, H.M.S. THRASHER).

Suez Raid. Port Said Raid. Ref. C.A.F.O. 587 (A) Raid 13/8 calm clear. (B) medium level attack eight E/A on Abu Sueir aerodrome and El Firdan. High level attack on Port Said, 0315 - 0548, no illuminants, clear moon light. (C) H/E bombs (D) Port Said four El Firdan four, Abu Sueir 30 to 40 bombs. (E) Abu Sueir 4 machines destroyed. Damage to 3 machines 1 hanger etc. Armed Merchant Ships and El Firdan, no damage no casualties. (F) No interceptions. (G) Balloons up 3200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez 18320/13 to Admty.)

British prisoners in CHAKMOLLION. Foam in Alexandria reports 11/8. "Am informed by Admiral Gouton that 38 British Officers prisoners of war and 13 N.C.Os are being brought back in CHAKMOLLION arriving Beirut 15/8. 14 are still in Scarpanto and Italian Govt. have agreed to send them to France for eventual return here". (C. in C. M.E. 1920/12 to W.O.)

Enemy Ships. 6 small ships 035° 06' 012° 30' 187° 8 knots at 1748Z - 2. (S.O.S. Malta 2001B/13 to P.32).

Syrian Coats Defence. Your 12400/41. Adm. Müselier is very anxious to commence action on N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports 1423/1. Request very early information as to result of Conference with Minister of State. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2010A/13 to C. in C. Med);

Situation report. KEPHALONIA (Schooner on Western Desert service) carrying stores to Tobruk foundered in 031° 07' N. 029° E. at 1300/13 after attempts to tow and (? contol) flooding during the night of 12/13 had (? failed). Investigation being held. (C. in C. Med., 2305/13 to Admty.)

BULGARIA. Bulgarian steamer BULGARIA (details) sailing Istanbul 16000/13. in ballast. German troops on board. (Capt. S.1, 23200/13 to THRASHER).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CHANTALA CHAKDINA.	To join Mediterranean. (V.C.N.S., 0101A/13 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med). See Lion Copy. See 1102/13.
ST. SAMPSON.	My 1218/29/7 and my 0604/6 not to Admiralty. Onward programme of H.M.S. ST. SAMPSON leaves Seychelles 14/8. Arrives Aden 21/8. (C. in C. E.I., 0504Z/13 to S.N.O.R.S.)
S.W.8.	Convoy S.W.8 arrived. (N.C.S.O., Kilindini, 0600Z/13 to Admty).
R.I.N. ships for Med.,	F.O.C.R.I.N., 0625/11 and 1110/12 para 1 consider SOFALA and SIR HARVEY ADAMSON too slow even if they could be spared. Surrender of A/S Vessels NETRAVATI or RATNAGIRI in order to release SONAVATI cannot be accepted. Is ADRIA acceptable to you? (C. in C. E.I., 0620Z/13 to C. in C. Med.)
CHANTALA CHAKDINA.	Your 0101/13, concur Tobruk is more pressing need. S.N.O. Red Sea Force is being directed to sail CHANTALA as soon as practicable. CHAKDINA should be ready to leave Bombay 15/8. (C. in C. E.I., 1102Z/13 to Admty).
LUMINARY.	Your 1340Z/5. Portuguese have no objection to call at Beira, but this must not exceed 24 hours. (D.O.D. (F) 1123A/13 to C. in C. E.I.)
Djibouti.	Reports of Vichy S/Ms running blockade from Madagascar. (C. in C. E.I., 1332Z/13 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Thailand	Re supply of oil. (C. in C. China, 0807Z/13 to B.M., Bangkok). See Lion Copy.
N.E.I. Co-operation.	C. in C. Far East 1426/13 to W.O. for Chiefs of Staff. (See Lion Copy.)
Japanese Warships.	15 miles S.E. Amoy 2350Z/9. 12 Japanese destroyers with six transports course N.E. Amoy arrivals 10th, one Japanese destroyer and two transports, departures six Japanese Torpedo Boats. Off Haiphong 12th, one Japanese destroyer. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0819Z/13 to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

QUEEN OF BERMUDA.	N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1156B/12. Water situation has improved and it is not now intended that you should call at Bermuda on passage to U.S.A. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1002Q/13 to QUEEN OF BERMUDA.
FORMIDABLE.	Admty., 1915A/12. Break W/T silence when inside Caribbean sea and report intended programme. Your 1654/8, aircraft are not to be flown off to land on U.S. territory. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1102Q/13 to FORMIDABLE.)
Convoy T.C.12B.	Pass Admty., 1926A/12 to REVENGE. (D.S.O. 1134A/13 to R.A.3.)
REVENGE.	My 1446P/5. Intend sailing REVENGE at 1330/14 routed through (A) 43° 00' N., 63°10' W. (B) 35° 00' N., 63° 30' W., E.T.A., Bermuda 1400Q.Narrows 1445Q/16. Request REVENGE may be sailed for Halifax on 23/8. (R.A.3, 1202B/13 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

/MANCHESTER.....

MOST SECRET.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

MANCHESTER FIREDRAKE.	Your 0912R/12. Expected to be ready to leave Gibraltar on 9/9. If no further delays, could arrive at Eastern U.S.Ports at end of September. (D.O.D.(F) 1329A/13 to B.A.R.M.)
Easter Island raider report.	N.S.H.Q.Ottawa's 0219 Z/26. Investigation of Anchorage Easter Island failed to disclose presence of German Raider. Information from inhabitants was no ship had arrived island since November, 1940. (PRINCE ROBERT, 1523Z/13 to C. in C.A.W.I.)
St. John's N.F.	Situation re base. (C.C.N.F., 1553Z/13 to C. in C.W.A., Canadian Minister for Naval Affairs.) See Lion Copy.
NORDERNEY. (German.)	Latest description. (R.A.3 B.S. 1851P/13 to N.A.E.F.)
PRINCE ROBERT.	In the absence of other instructions proceed Auckland after completing with fuel. (C. in A.W.I., 2312Q/13 to PRINCE ROBERT.)
GLADIOLUS NASTURTIUM and MIMOSA.	Proceeding independently to Halifax owing to thick weather and absence of other orders. (GLADIOLUS, 2325Z/13, to C.O.A.C., Halifax.)

Australia.

Far East Convoy Escorts.	Admty. 1934 A/11. Naval Board did not envisage A/S escort from Fremantle area to Singapore. (b) A/S vessel available in Garden Island allowing of escort in (i) Leeuwin Area (ii) between Melbourne and Brisbane and (iii) for portion of trans-Tasman passage. Para.(d) of Admty. 1934 A/11. It is understood that separate personnel convoys, namely ?U.S., will be run. (A.C.N.B., 1555Z/13 to C. in C. China.)

MOST SECRET.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

Programme for LEANDER. Your 0646Z/12. Concur.
(N.Z.N.B. 0915M/13 to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

General.

The fact that escorts have recently located and attacked U/Boats close to Convoys at night may lead enemy to vary U/Boat night attack tactics. Variations are unlikely in presence of weak escorts but a probable development with well escorted convoys might take form of long range Browning attacks from Bow or even ahead of Convoy. By night, therefore, when strong escort is present, van position on escort diagram should be reinforced and should ships be detached to search, etc., van of convoy should never be left unprotected.
(C. in C.W.A., 1701A/13 to W.A. Escort Groups.)

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN (torpedoed 29/7.) — Arrived DERBYSHIRE with 6 survivors from SHAHRISTAN. Code Word D I A G R A M. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2058A/13).

Submarines Reported.

0443Z/13. — My 0153A/12, 1225A/12 and 2143A/12. Further D/F bearings at 0443Z/13 indicate that a U.Boat is still shadowing convoy H.G.70.
(D.D.I.C. 0632A/13 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE)

0403 G.M.T. — Italian S/M made enemy sighting report at 0403 G.M.T. 13 bearing 286/3.
0440 G.M.T. — German S/M made enemy sighting report at 0440 B.M.T. 13 bearing 291/2.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0715A/13, to N.A.Stn.)

/0630.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

0630. B.1. S/M sighted 0630 position 8 miles from Pargo Point, proceeding submerged S. to W.
(R.O., Funchal, 1145/13 to Admty.)
(F.O.C.N.A. 1703A/13 to N.A. Stn.)

0841 G.M.T.
1008 G.M.T. Following bearings obtained at 0841 G.M.T. T.O.O. 1002/13. 29 Groups. Following bearings of Italian U-Boat. Call sign 14 F obtained at 1008/13 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1215A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Estimated U Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1450A/13.)

1621A. Following has been read. 1 Submarine on surface bearing 238° distance 7 miles, course unknown, my position 40.23 N., 15.38 W.
(Capt. D.8, 1621A/13, to Gibraltar W/T.)

1443Z. D/F at 1443Z/13 indicated H.G.70 was being shadowed by U/Boat. Four F.W.aircraft are in the vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1625A/13 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE.)

1705.
1621. U-boat reported in 040° 10' N., 013° 45' W., at 1705/13. U-boat in 040° 18' N., 015° (? 49')W., at 1621/13.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1806A/13 to N.A.Stn.)

1837 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 14 F at 1837 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 2040A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

1836 G.M.T. At 1836 G.M.T. Italian S/M bearing 287/3 made a sighting report probably H.G.70.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2253A/13 to Escort H.G.70.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

13.8.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C 0715. — U Boat sighted by Catalina A/C in 039° 12' N., 013° 49° W., at 0715A/13. Attacked with depth charges.(F.O.C.N.A. 0803A/13 to N.A. Stn.)

By A/C 0755. — At 0755 Catalina A/C (escorting H.G.70) sighted second U-Boat 039° 36' N., 013° 56' W., attacked with bombs, estimated 1 hit. (F.O.C.N.A., 0822A/13 to Capt. D.8.) (200 Group, 1655/13.)

By DUNCAN 12/8. — C.A.F.O. 834/41. (a) DUNCAN (b) 0737/12/8 (c) 034° 16'N., 007° 38' W. (d) 10 (e) 0835/12. Unsuccessful. (DUNCAN 1000/13 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your Ops.882 13/8. This will be done. Aircraft patrol morning/13 considers he badly damaged one large and one small submarine. (200 Group, 2101/13, to H.Q.C.C.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Submarine escorts for H.G. and O.G. convoys are to be discontinued.

As many convoys as possible are to be accompanied by a Cam ship.

Home Commands

Two forces of either M.G.B's or M.L's depending on the weather, will be stationed during the dark hours at South Varne Buoy and No 8 Buoy (51° 2' N., 1° 35' E) to intercept and engage any enemy located by R.D.F. during passage of convoy. Aircraft will cooperate with flares.

British Air Operations.

The air patrols recently carried out have not yet been successful in locating the U-Boat routes between Norway and the North Atlantic and are to be continued.

11 Blenheims escorted by fighters set out today to attack E and R boats in Boulogne harbour. No details of damage to the boats are reported; the docks were also bombed.
10 Blenheims carried out a sweep off the East Frisian Is. and left a 2000 ton merchantman 13 miles S.W. of Heligoland on fire and sinking after two direct hits.

Enemy Air Operations

The few attacks recently carried out by K.G.40 (F.W's) probably indicate that this unit is concentrating mainly on R/C for U-Boats and other air force units, rather than a policy of attacking shipping.

An enemy aircraft passed over and probably saw into Scapa Flow today.

/Convoy W.N.66....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Operations-Contd.

Convoy W.N. 66 called for help at 2320 in 57° 33' N., 0° 34' W (east of Peterhead). No details are known.

Convoy E.C. 60 was bombed tonight 17 miles from Cromer, R.F.A. WAR NIZAM was damaged.

SS BRIARWOOD a straggler from convoy H.G. 70 was bombed at 1454 in 40° 54' N., 19° 16' W. The Attack was beaten off.

Mediterranean

Spanish SS BERGA engaged in carrying pyrites from Spain to Genoa was intercepted today by H.M.T. LADY HOGARTH near Capo de Gata with connivance of the ship's officers and was brought into Gibraltar.

Air Operations from Malta against Tripoli convoys.

5 Naval Swordfish attacked the submarine base at Augusta last night. Owing to poor visibility results were difficult to observe, but two hits were seen on a jetty and a fire was started which was visible 40 miles away.
9 Naval Swordfish today made a successful attack on a south bound convoy of 5 merchantmen escorted by 5 destroyers 30 miles south of Lampione at 2250. One merchant ship of 6000 tons, 2 of 3000 tons and a destroyer were each hit by one torpedo. The large merchant ship was last seen well down by the stern and covered by a thick black pall of smoke and one of the smaller merchant ships had a heavy list to port. The destroyer was seen transferring her crew to another destroyer. Later, only 3 merchant ships of the convoy were seen approaching Tripoli. Search of the area revealed no trace of stragglers, and it is considered almost certain that the 6000 ton and one 3000 ton ship and a destroyer were sunk.

/4 Wellingtons....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

4 Wellingtons each made 2 attacks on shipping in Catalina early today; it is thought that merchant vessels alongside were damaged. Augusta harbour was also attacked. Blenheims this morning made a shipping sweep between Tripoli and Benghazi. Two tankers of 4000 tons were hit off Beurat el Hsun; one exploded and the other was left on fire; and it is thought both were sunk. Two schooners of 800 tons were also hit, one was set on fire the other had a bad list. Two Blenheims were lost.

Libya and Western Desert.

6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night. This is the third night in succession that the port has been attacked, and there were indications that A.A. ammunition may be short.

Tobruk town and harbour and Mersa Matruh were bombed last night. Tobruk was bombed again today. No naval damage is reported.

Suez Canal Area.

About 15 to 20 enemy aircraft attacked the Canal zone last night. Bombs were dropped at Port Said. No naval damage or casualties were caused.

Air Attack on Corinth Canal.

28 Wellingtons attacked the Corinth Canal last night It is reported that the Canal is blocked by landslides.

Cyprus.

Limassol and Larnaca were bombed today and damage was caused ashore.

East Indies

A small naval base to be named H.M.S. EUPHRATES as from 1/9/41, has been formed at Basra.

China

Mining policy and diversion of shipping in the event of war in the Far East are dealt with today in messages from C. in C. China.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

America & West Indies

CIRCASSIA today captured in 24° 55' N., 40° 23' W the Italian STELLA which left Pernambuco on 30/7, and is sending her in to Bermuda.

U-Boat Campaign

It is reported that SS SUD, which left Gibraltar on 9/8 for Halifax was sunk by two submarines cooperating with an aircraft at 1300 G.M.T. today in 41° N., 17° 41' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

St. Bees Head Danger Area.

R.N.O. Whitehaven reports that Army request that shipping be directed to avoid, a danger area 7½ miles from a point about one mile south of St.Bees Head and bounded by lines drawn 180° and 330°. No previous intimation has been received regarding this proposal and consider it undesirable to divert shipping as suggested. C. in C.W.A., No. 1648/640/23 of 4/8, regarding Eskmeals Range, refers. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0936/14.)

Vichy Ships.

Cancel my 2228/13. Further signal will be issued. (Head of M. 1245A/14.)
Treatment, of, policy to be adopted, clarifying points in Admty., 0130/4/7. (Hd. of M., 1526A/14).
See America & West Indies and Lion Copy.

MODESTA
WINHA.
SOLBRITT
ROLFSBORG
seized.

Your 1736A/12. Finnish Vessels MODESTA, WINHA, and SOLBRITT have agreed to work ships in harbour and to proceed to next port. ROLFSBORG has agreed to discharge deck cargo but refuses at present to work ship to next port. All ships were seized yesterday. Several of crews will doubtless, and are anxious to, accept service with Allies afloat or on shore.
(C.C.S.O.Kirkwall 1405/14 to Adty.)

KYLECLARE.

S.S.KYLECLARE (Eirean) 700 tons 11 knots asks to be included in an O.G. convoy for Lisbon. She has bunker capacity for twenty days. Agents ask if she can rebunker at Gibraltar. Request instructions.
(N.C.S.O.Cardiff 2045A/14.)

AUDACITY.

Understand AUDACITY will not be ready for another 6 weeks owing to alterations to galley, or 12 weeks if additional arrester wires are fitted. (2) Present intention is to operate ship initially with O.G./H.G convoys, working between U.K. and Gibraltar. After discussion with C.O. it is recommended that full complement of Fighter Aircraft only should be carried initially. Training which will have been carried out by time ship is ready will enable Swordfish Aircraft to be substituted for fighters without change of personnel, if experience indicates composite complement of aircraft to be desirable.
(3) It is considered that ship should commence operations as soon as galley is ready, without waiting for additional arrester wires.
(C. in C.W.A. 2157A/14.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Technical information. My 2046A/11. Information which may be communicated to Russians.
(D) Names of party are as follows.
(V.C.N.S. 1750A/14 to A.C.O.S.)

Air Service. Proposed A/C service between Archangel and U.K.
(Air Ministry 1925/14.)
See British Air Activity.

Bear Island Station. Soviet C. in C. Northern Forces informed me he proposed to send submarine to destroy (German ?) Meteorological station Bear Island subject to our concurrence. I informed him that Admiral Vian might have already completed operation. Request early reply.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk 1959C/14 to Adty.)
Your 1959C/14. Meteorological Station at Bear Island has been destroyed by Force A and the operators removed. (D.O.D.H.2258A/14.)
See Operations.

Movements.

A.F.D. IV. A.M. 1928B/22 July. Consider it desirable 4 destroyers preferably A/A should escort floating dock sailing on 20/8. Request information how many can be provided from your command.
(ii) S.O. should arrive Plymouth in time to attend conference a.m./19.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1314/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

REPULSE. REPULSE is to take IMPULSIVE, ACTIVE, and ECLIPSE under his orders and sail from anchorage below Forth Bridge at 0730/15 and proceed Scapa, to arrive in daylight P.M. 15th.
BRADFORD report E.T.A., Scapa after sailing from Rosyth.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1602/14.)
My 1602/14. E.T.A. Scapa 1800/15.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1840/14.)

ORUC REIS. Request escort for Turkish Submarine ORUC REIS from 21st to 30th August for passage to Clyde and to attend as requisite during trials.
(F.O.I.C.Liverpool 1611A/14.)
See also F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1129A/15.

/INDOMITABLE.....

War Diary. 14.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

INDOMITABLE. Re sailing. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1652A/14.)
See Operations Volume.

RAMILLIES. Is required to return to U.K. as soon as possible to refit for other urgent service. (A.C.N.S.H.1746A/14.)

SEALION. On completion FOLLOW proceed through following positions to R/V in 50° 31' N., 0° 41' W., at 0545A/20. Bombing restrictions as follows. (Capt. S.5 1748A/14 to SEALION.)

PARTHIAN. From 049° N., 006° 30' W., proceed through 050° 21' N., 000° 41' W., to R/V in 050° 31' N., 000° 41' W., at 0545A/19. R/Vs must be made before 1830. (Capt. S.5.1801A/14 to PARTHIAN.)

RUBIS. Sailing. Pass Bell Rock, 2200A/14 routed as follows.
(Capt. S.9. 1929A/14 to S/M's Area A.)

FIDELITY. Cancel my 1102A/10. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to arrange for trials of FIDELITY as required, and to sail FIDELITY with O.S.4. (C. in C.W.A., 1934A/14.)

/Exercise.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Net-laying. Departure TONBRIDGE and escorts at 0530 for net laying off Sheringham.
(F.O.I.C.Yarmouth 0731A/14.)

Straits of Dover. Two forces of either M.G.B.'s or M.L.'s depending on weather will be stationed during dark hours tonight (A) at South Varne Buoy (B) No.8 buoy 51° 2' N., 1° 35' E. Role to intercept and engage the enemy as located by R.D.F. only crossing to North West of line joining above positions if in contact. Aircraft will be ordered to drop flares in mid strait to silhouett attacking craft to convoy.
(V.A.Dover 1212A/14 to HOLDERNESS.)
My 1212. Force A. Call Sign S.4.U., M.G.B.'s 43, 89 and S.2. Force B. Call sign J.D.5., M.L's 142 138, 141.
(V.A.Dover 2206A/14.)

Exercise LEAPFROG. R.A.(D)'s 1146A/11.
On return of Convoy W.S.8 C to Clyde Force 110 will disembark at Tail of Bank. Military C. and M. Parties will remain in all ships with military stores and equipment.

Convoy W.S.8C. 2. F.O.i/c Greenock is requested to arrange for the disposal in the Clyde area of the convoy subsequent to disembarkation subject to the training requirements of Force 110 and the ships remaining at 7 days notice. 3. NIGERIAN, ETTRICK and PRINCESS BEATRIX are to be included in the above arrangements. M.T. MACHARDA will be discharged and reloaded under War Office arrangements.
(D.O.D.H. 1303A/14.)

Operation "Grab". Intend resume GRAB AM/15th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1747A/14.)

Bear Island Station. Your 1959C/14. Meteorological Station at Bear Island has been destroyed by Force A and the Operators removed.
(D.O.D.H. 2258A/14 to B.S.N.O. Murmansk.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

NOSE 2 now flying.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0510/14.)
(a) Although crossover patrols to North Shetlands have not been successful in locating the U-boat routes between Norway and North Atlantic the negative information obtained is considered to be of value. It is suggested now that these patrols should be moved further to northward.
(b) With lengthening nights it is possible U-boats may increase their use of Fair Island Channel. If Northern searches again prove unsuccessful after say three weeks of operation it is suggested we should then establish air patrol between the Fair Island Channel and Norway in approx. long. 002°E. Any contact in this area would prove of greatest value to Submarine Command in assisting to discover a safe route through North Sea minefields for use by our own Submarines.
(F.O.S. 1152A/14 to H.Q.C.C.)
Your 1152/14. Propose NOSE patrols be continued for further three days, after which cross-over patrol will be instituted on meridians 4° W.,2° 40' W., 1° 20'W., and Greenwich Meridian extending from 62° 20'N., to 63° 40' N. Concur with para.B.
(H.Q.C.C.1815/14 to F.O.S.)
Your 1815/14. Concur.
(F.O.S.2356A/14 to H.Q.C.C.)
BERT and STAB now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1502/14.)

Bombing operations.

On day 13/8 and night 13/14 all operations were cancelled owing to weather.
(H.Q.B.C.1225/14.)

Own A/C fired on.

Aircraft T/209 reported being fired upon on joining H.X.142 at 0400/11. Convoy had been warned and she made continuous recognition signals by lamp. C.O. AUSONIA informs me vessel firing on night of the 11 was probably NORTHUMBERLAND.
Latter had been given permission by Commodore to practice? machine gun fire and had been firing dangerously and in all directions during day.
(N.O.I.C.Iceland 1729/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

Archangel to U.K. Air Service.

Soviet Authorities have requested permission to operate aircraft from Archangel to U.K. with object of increasing passenger and freight facilities. Consolidated P.B.Y (Catalina) with Russian markings with endurance of 30 hours to be used. Sullom Voe or Invergordon suggested as possible bases in U.K. Request you state which is most acceptable if neither suggest alternative.

/Considered...

War Diary. 14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

Archangel to U.K. Air Service. Contd.

Considered undesirable to pass full British recognition and identification system to Soviet at present time. Correct 2 star cartridges will be used.
(Air Ministry 1925/14 to H.Q.F.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

BRIARWOOD (British, 446 Tons) attacked.

40°.54' N.19°.16'W. BRIARWOOD bombed 1454/14. First attack beaten off 1456/14.
(Wick Radio 1459/14.)

A/C over Scapa.

At 1746/14. an aircraft visually identified as JU 88 passed over the Flow at 20,000 ft. Probable aircraft saw into Flow.
(A.C.O.S. 1929/14.)

Convoy E.G.60.

Help. One enemy aircraft. Position 52°54' N., 2°5'E.
(VORTIGERN 2106/14.) (WESTMINSTER 2108/14.)
Fighters despatched.
(? Origin 2121/14 to Whitehall W/T.)
My 2106. 3 Aircraft.
(VORTIGERN 2112A/14.)
Convoy being bombed in 068° from Cromer distance 17 miles.
(WESTMINSTER 2140A/14.)
My 2140. Many bombs apparently no hits.
(WESTMINSTER 2212/14.)

Convoy EVIDENCE.

Fighters despatched to assist Convoy EVIDENCE.
(Admiralty Spare No.8.)
(Rosyth 2154/14.)

Convoy W.N.Even.

Help METRIC 57° 33' N., 0° 34' W.
(GAVOTTE 2320/14.)
Fighters are being sent.
(Rosyth 2334/14.)

Mining

Operation S.N.70A.

R.A.(M) 1224A/13. Concur.
(C.in C.H.F. 0957/14.)
My 1224/13. For CASTLETON and CHARLESTON read WELLS and ST. MARYS.
(R.A.M. 0958A/14.)
Your 1224/13. Concur, provided escort is still available.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1345A/14 to R.A.M.)
RAMILLIES is required to return to U.K.

/Request.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation S.N.70A. Contd. — Request you consider deferring Operation S.N.70A and use the destroyer escort at present detailed for R.A.M.L., to screen RAMILLIES to Liverpool. (A.C.N.S.H. 1746A/14 to C. in C.H.F.)

MANXMAN. — Is required to embark mines at Milford Haven and to be ready to leave Milford Haven loaded on the evening of 17/8. 2. Request MANXMAN be sailed for Milford Haven accordingly. (A.C.N.S.F. 1543A/14.)

Technical.

"Snowflake" Rockets. — Description and use. (D.G.D. 1607A/14.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Naval units. — KOLN not at Copenhagen 12/8. B.3. Cruiser and 12 Torpedo boats at Aarhus 12/8. D.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1531/14.)

Casualties & Defects.

M.G.B.86. — Arrived Dover, leaking badly and with engine defects. (V.A.Dover 1605A/14.)

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G.69. — 13 ships, has arrived safely under Commodore Casey R.N.R. 2 ships Allied. Cargoes. (D.S.709, 14/8.)

East Coast, Escorts. — Cancel my 1245A/12. Corvette duties revised as follows. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1149A/14.) See Lion Copy.

Iceland, tankers. — Your 0951/9. Two additional R.N.R. Officers are being appointed. Not anticipated that anything approaching 12 tankers will arrive simultaneously. (4th S.L., 1220A/14 to A.C.I.C.)

/F.S.70.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 14.8.41.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

F.S.70. My 1100/11. (Forecast of convoy sailings.) F.S.70 will run as an 8 knot convoy sailing from Methil at 2000/16. E.T.A. 20 C buoy 0845/17, 62D buoy 2100/17 and Southend 2000/18. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1302/14 to Admty etc.)

S/M Escorts to H.E. and O.G. discontinued. Your 1204B/8. In view of concentrated attacks to which H.G. and O.G. convoys are liable and to avoid any possibility of doubt in escorts as to identity of a S/M with which they may be in contact, it has been decided to discontinue S/M escorts for these convoys. Netherlands S/M's should continue to be employed in Western Mediterranean, OLYMPUS for transport duties to Malta or for operational duties, where A/S activity is not expected to be strong, and "River" Class on operational patrols in Atlantic.
(V.C.N.S. 1333A/14 1311A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

O.S.2.)
S.L.84.) Routes too close to Dakar. (C. in C.S.A., 1357N/14.) See South Atlantic.

Cam Ships. It is desired to have a Cam ship with as many convoys as possible. When necessary a Cam ship may be delayed to achieve this.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1344A/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

F.S.69. My 1100/11. F.S.69 will sail from Methil at 1200/15 and run as a fast convoy to 20C buoy, then as a slow convoy. E.T.A. 20C Buoy 0045/16 then according to programme.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1852/14 to Admty etc.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

0.24
2 M/V's
sunk.

P.C. and S. 0001A/14 037° 50' N., 002° 46' 30" E 259° 13 knots. Have sunk by torpedo 5000-ton fully laden supply ship and sailing vessel believed 1000 tons. (0.24 0057A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.) Arrived off Europe Point at 0800A/15. Own surface force will be exercising S.E. of Gibraltar and tug and target will be in position 090° Europa Point 40 at 0600. T.B.R. arranged from 0400. (F.O.C.N.A. 1108A/14 to 0.24)

KOS 7
KOS 9

My 1700A/11 not to Admty. Have KOS 7 and KOS 9 arrived? (F.O.C.N.A. 0816A/14 to Ponta Delgada) See 0720/16.

Escorts for Tankers.

Tanker CAPSA's signal reporting her arrival at 25°W was received at 2238/11. Her time of arriving at 15°W will be approx. 1230/14. Times for BENEDICK are 0659/12 and 0900/14. This does not allow sufficient time to organise escorts economically. Request Tankers be instructed to report on crossing 30° W. (F.O.C.N.A.,1318A/14 to Admty.)

Italian Ships.

Departure 13/8 MAURO GROCE Genoa Arrival 14/8 DERNA. (Barcelona 1500/14)

French Convoys.

Passing Gibraltar 12/8, 13/8. (D.O.R. 14/8)

17th M.L.F.

My 1140A/12 and my 1148A/13. Intend sailing 17th M.L.F. SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE and ARRAN 0630A/16. Delay in starting due to defect in an M.L. (F.O.C.N.A. 1728A/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

French Ships.

Arrival Bilbao 13/8 LE VIOLENT. Departure 12/8 PRESIDENT LAVIT 13/8 JEUNE MAURICE. (Bilbao, 1824/14)

Water Supplies.

Your 1306B/3 para 1. Following is summary of replies to A.T. 1209B/5.
(a) Funchal ample supplies.
(b) Las Palmas sufficient supplies.
(c) Ponta Delgada supplies by lighter from outside port in fine weather only 40 tons per hour provided ship can received through four or five hoses.

/2.....

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Water Supplies -Contd.

2. In view of information in (c) amend para 2 of A.T. 1925B/4 to read Funchal for Ponta Delgada.
3. Funchal should normally be used for lifting water, Las Palmas only being used in an emergency.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2340A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic

ORION suspicious ships.

ORION's 0102/13. Is it known if (?these) ships are likely to have been U.S. Cruiser MEMPHIS U.S. Destroyers DAVIS and WARRINGTON?
(C. in C. S.A. 0023N/14 to Admty.)

New C. in C.

Valuable if Vice-Adm. Willis could visit South and West Africa before he assumes command of South Atlantic Station. He will first visit you at Freetown subsequently proceeding by Commercial Airline to the Cape.
(V.C.N.S. 0100A/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

A/A Guns in Transports.

Request report of A/A. Armament provided in MAURETANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, ILE DE FRANCE.
(a) permanently on board
(b) provided additionally when in Red Sea.
(D.T.D. 1233A/14 to N.O.I.C. Durban)

Convoy Routes O.S. 2. S.L. 84.

Consider route of convoy O.S. 2 undesirably close to Dakar and S.L. 84 could with advantage be further out unless special reason requires. Air R/C from Dakar known on occasion to extend to this distance and no reason seen why convoy should not be reported ultimately to enemy.
(C. in C. S.A., 1357N/14 to Admty.)

Freetown

M.of W.T. and W.O. are concerned about future development and administration of Freetown in view of its increasing use as a port of transit for important military and commercial cargoes. Proposals are being cabled to Governor and repeated to you by Colonial Office.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1548A/14 To C. in C. S.A.)

/CLAN.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

CLAN MACGILLIVRAY Q report.	Following has been read:- QQQQ 13 31 S. 40 56 E. CLAN MACGILLIVRAY followed by suspicious vessel. DE Jacobs Radio. T.O.R. Slangkop 1740. (Jenin Radio No T.O.O.) Following has been read:- from CLAN MACGILLIVRAY Cancel my QQQQ of 1814 DE Walvis Bay. (Slangkop T.O.R. 1815N, CLAN MACGILLIVRAY 2016/14) Jacobs W/T reports cancellation of QQQQ was on different setting different and weaker note. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2109B/14 to C. in C. E.I., etc.) Your 2109/14 Cancellation received in code at 2036 G.M.T. consider genuine. (C. in C. E.I. 2134Z/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)
ADVANCE (Finnish)	My 2217/8. Santos reports expected to sail for Rio de Janeiro 15/8 to load ore for Orient. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2101Z/14 to R.A.S.A.D.)
ST. DOMINIQUE	French ship ST. DOMINIQUE is due to leave Martinique on 18/8 for Cayenne and Rio de Janeiro calling on return journey at Para and Cayenne. Voyage has been approved. (C. in C. S.A. 2101N/14 to S. & A. S.A. S.Q.D.)
KOS 7 and KOS 9	Have not arrived Freetown. No report of sailing from Ponta Delgada yet received. Admty. 1321/4 suggests ships were not due Ponta Delgada till 12/8. Your 0816/14 refers. (C. in C. S.A. 2121N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Enemy A/C — 3 enemy aircraft in sight in Section B at (2000 feet)? (JAGUAR 0237/14 to KIMBERLEY) Following has been read: Am being attacked by enemy aircraft 31.57 N., 25.46 E. (?? 0728/14 to Alexandria W/T)

Ehemy Convoy. — Following has been read P.C. and S of enemy. 3 M/V 2 schooners 34.01 N., 11.57 E., 190° 5 knots. (Q.Squadron Med. Fleet. 0829B/14, S.O.S. Malta 0953B/14 to P.33.)

Western Desert. — Following destroyers detailed for Western Desert service:- KIPLING, JACKAL leave Alexandria a.m./18 NIZAM, HASTY leave Alexandria a.m./19.(R.A.D. Med. 0905/14)

URSULA URGE OSIRIS — URSULA passes 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2359B/14 on course 70° to 015° 40'. 1st position to be approached as follows (begins) URGE on course 195° keeping west of 015° 35' OSIRIS on course 335° both to arrive a.m./15. Submarines are not to be attacked during night of 14/15. (S.O.(S) Malta 0940B/14 to URGE, OSIRIS)

Signals — Your 1450/8. No difficulty is foreseen in using different letters for aircraft and minor war vessels, both being unconnected with private signals. (C. in C. Med. 1002C/14 to Admty.)

Situation Report No 115. — Following is a repetition of my 2344C/12 PROTECTOR has arrived Port Said. Engine room diesel room and barrel stowages flooded. Torpedo hit after engine room bulkhead. "A" Lighter No 14 mined and sunk in Tobruk Harbour. 37 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi night 10/11. No further report of enemy supply ship. (C. in C. Med. 1010/14)

end

BARHAM — You must arrive south of Suez searched channel 029° 50' by 0500C/15. Enter canal without delay on arrival. If mines are laid tonight N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik will order you to remain south of swept channel. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1031C/14 to BARHAM)

/Port Said.....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Port Said Raid. Port Said and El Firdan each bombed by single enemy aircraft on night 12/13, no damage reported, some service casualties El Firdan.

Suez Raid Night 13/14 about 15 enemy aircraft attacked Suez Canal, details not yet available as telephone communication cut.

S/M attacked in Bardia Derna Bombed Striking force 1 Blenheim 5 Albacores armed with bombs and torpedoes despatched to attack submarine reported in Bardia Harbour on night 12/13. Details damage unobserved but submarine believed damaged as large oil patches were seen on surface N.E. of Harbour on morning 13/8. Further 2 Blenheims 1 Wellington bombed Bardia town night 12/13 hitting Customs House and Southwest corner M.T.workshops. One Wellington bombed Derna day 13/8. (H.Q.,R.A.F., M.E.,1101/14)

BATHURST LISMORE Admty. 0101A/13. Your 1100Z/13 BATHURST will be quickly docked at Alexandria completing p.m./16. Intend to sail her for Aden on completion. LISMORE is at Sues and can be sailed at once. Would you prefer that she be quickly docked before sailing. This would entail delay in sailing until about 22/8. (C. in C. Med., 1102C/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

Vichy Convoy My 1600C (8th?) Return route of convoy A as follows. (C. in C. Med. 1121C/14 to Med. Fleet.)

Alexandria Re installing a Flashing Cable. Consider degree of protection afforded does not justify the use of so much equipment and shipping. Provision of more "LL" and S.A. minesweepers appears to be a better policy giving greater flexibility in operation. (D.M.S. Approved A.C.N.S.(H) 1127A/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Submarines Movements summary 41 (C.(S) I 1140C/14) See Lion Copy.

ABDIEL Detach ABDIEL to arrive Port Said 0800/15. (C. in C. Med, 1328C/14 to NEPTUNE)

/Operation....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Operation "Guillotine"
Serial 21 P postponed 24 hours. ABDIEL is to take the place of KIPLING, returning to Alexandria on completion. KIPLING as ordered by S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. (C. in C. Med., 1348C/14 to S. and A Operation "Guillotine")

NEPTUNE TALISMAN
NEPTUNE E.T.A. Alexandria from eastward 0830C/15 Do not pass Shoulder Buoy until 1000C and proceed on main motor inside 20 fathom line. (Capt. S.1. 1545C/14 to TALISMAN)

Malta Raid
Night 13/14, 1 raider dropped incendiaries. No damage. Hurricanes unable to engage. Part 2.

CALIFORNIA Sunk
Visual R/C Syracuse, CALIFORNIA 13,000 tons attacked by Swordfish (see 1600/11)now sunk in harbour.

Augusta Syracuse Tripoli bombed.
5 Swordfish attacked S/M base Augusta night 13/14. 2 hits on Jetty. 2 A/C failed to locate target owing to bad visibility and attacked barrack blocks Syracuse. 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 2135 to 0210 G.M.T. Night 13/14. Government Offices buildings hit also Governors Palace and 1 heavy A.A. position. (H.Q.,R.A.F.,Malta 1600/14)

P.32 P.33 UNIQUE
Cancel my 1058B/14 (N.T. in W.D.) Patrol as follows P.32 033° 10' 013° 14' P.33 033° 20' 013° 00'. UNIQUE leaves Malta p.m./16 for position 033° 20' 013° 10'.
12½ knots convoy 6 merchant ships and 5 destroyers due Tripoli 1300/15 and 8 knots convoy 4 merchant ships and 6 destroyers due Tripoli 1630/18. (S.O.(S) Malta 1601B/14 to P.32, P.33)

Turkey and Iran.
German schemes for road transport. (Beyoglu, 1646C/14 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

PORPOISE
My 1043B/30. Amend date for PORPOISE to read 15/9. (F.O.S. 1724A/14 to C. in C. Med. etc.)

UNIQUE
Leaves Malta p.m/16 for patrol off Tripoli during 18, then to relieve P.33 in area T. (S.O.S. Malta 1845B/14 to Capt. S. 1.)

/Interned....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

14.8.1941.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Interned Vichy Ships

Your 1350B/6 and C. in C. Med. 1436C/8. General Staff state Turkish Govt. have decided to move all Vichy French Ships to Erdek where vessels under control of Turkish Navy. (N.A.Angora 1853C/14 to Admty.)

Greek S/M NEREUS

Leave patrol a.m/16 proceed through Scarpanto Channel to 34° 12' 29° 22' thence direct to arrive Alexandria S/M Sanctuary 0500C/20. (Capt. S.1. 1909C/14 to NEREUS)

German Ships.

Arrival 13/8 HANS SCHMIDT LISBOA with cargo Ammonia Fertiliser. (Valencia 2020/14 to M. of W.T.)

Folbot Section.

Proposals for, in submarines. (C. in C. M.E. 2030/14 to W.O.) See Mediterranean Volume.

H.M.S. TORBAY reports use and sweeping of swept channel 311° from Benghazi also increased AS measures. (Capt. (S) 12147C/14 to TETRARCH)

Situation Report No 117

1. Western Desert. Aircraft attacked U-Boat in Bardia harbour night of 12/13 and reported she may have been seriously damaged as large patches of oil were seen.
2. Syria. Movement of interned Vichy ships (?from) Iskandarun to Erdek postponed to 15/8.
3. Canal area. About 12 bombs dropped Port Said between 0300 and 0630 on August 14. No naval damage or casualties. (See also S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area 1805C/14) (C. in C. Med. 2314C/14)

TORBAY

Request approval Patrol Kithera Channel from a.m./16 to p.m./17. My 2055/12 ship still in harbour. (TORBAY 2341C/14 to Capt. S. 1.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.3.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

VOYAGER. C. in C. Med., 1201/27. VOYAGER still awaiting instructions Aden.
(S.N.O.R.S., 0728Z/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

GIOVE. Your 1543/26 and your 1016/7 GIOVE was formally seized as Prize at 0815Z/14 by me. There is no cargo on board. (N.O.I.C. Massawa, 0854Z/14 to Admty).

EXETER. My 1102/14. On relief by MAURITIUS return to Bombay arriving 22nd.
(C. in C. E.I., 1104Z/14 to EXETER) Cancelled, see 0830/17.

Basra Naval Base. (H.M.S. EUPHRATES). (1) A small naval base has been formed at (Basra?) which it is recommended should be called H.M.S. EUPHRATES (late Motor Dhow NAIF) as from 1/9/41,
(2) If approved list of officers requiring fresh appointments will be forwarded by letter and formal commisioning order issued by C. in C. E.I.
(3) Request decision by signal.
(C. in C. E.I., 1224Z/14 to Admty).

LISMORE. Your 1102/14. (N.T. in W.D.) LISMORE to be quickly docked before sailing. (C. in C. E.I., 1252Z/14 to C. in C. Med).

CHAKDINA. Is to join Med. Fleet. Request you sail CHAKDINA for Suez at best speed calling at Aden for fuel. She should have full outfit of ammunition. CHAKDINA to report programme.
(C. in C. E.I., 1254Z/14 to Cdre. R.I.N.

TEESBANK. Left Suez 8/8 for Calcutta. Ship now wanted Singapore, please divert.
(D.T.D. 1930A/14 to N.O.I.C. Aden).

MOST SECRET

14.8.1941.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping.	Diversion on outbreak of war. (C. in C. China, 0325Z/14) See Operations Volume.
LE CONTE DE LISLE, French.	Departure 13/8 for Haiphong. (Saigon, 0454Z/14 to M. of W.T.)
URSULA RICKMERS.	Dairen departure 9/8.
BURGENLAND. SPREEWALD, "GLEN" ship.	Kobe 8/8 has returned to anchorage. Yokohama, SPREEWALD and new "Glen" search Type ship (my 0509/9/7 refers) have departed within last few days. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0501Z/14).
Mining policy.	In event of war spreading to Far East. (C. in C. China, 0533Z/14) See Operations Volume.
DUPLEIX French COMPIEGNE (French).	Detained by Dutch at Tanjong Priok, cargo is being unloaded and cargo will be placed in hands of Prize Court. Expected that Court will make Prize of both to compensate for two Dutch ships held in North African Ports. They will endeavour to seize COMPIEGNE should she leave Saigon as further compensation. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0636Z/14 to Admty).
SCOUT.	Hong Kong departure 12/8 SCOUT for operations. (S.O.(I) Singapore, 1007Z/14 to Admty).

America & West Indies.

NORDERNEY.	Left Para p.m./9. Description. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1133Q/14 to CIRCASSIA).
NASTURTIUM, PRIMROSE.	C. in C. W.A., 1703B/6/8. Request you will keep Admiralty and C. in C. W.A. informed of arrangements made between you and B.A.R.M. re arrival at Charleston and refitting periods for NASTURTIUM and PRIMROSE. (D.O.D. (H) 1136A/14 to C.C.N.F.)

/ORION.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

ORION. My 0941/6/8 shall be 24 hours early. (ORION, 1224Z/14).

REVENGE. My 1202P/13 and Admty 1926A/12. Request REVENGE may be sailed so as to reach Halifax not later than a.m./24. (R.A. 3 1434P/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Vichy Ships. Treatment, policy, clarifying points in Admty 0130/4/7. (Head of M., 1526A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc etc). See Lion Copy.

Finnish Ships. Admty 1944B/5. H.M.C. Ships are to be instructed to seize all ships flying Finnish flag on the high seas. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1604Z/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.C. Newfoundland, C.O. Pacific Coast.)

Martinique. Navy Dept. confirms daily air R/C of Martinique. Plane from San Juan lands about 1200 at Martinique. Pilot meets naval observer; mail is exchanged. Plane remains overnight in Trinidad and lands about 1000 at Martinique on return next day. Plots are made of shipping and given to Commander Caribbean Patrol. (D.N.I., 1621A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.).

St. John's N.F. Your 1553Z/13. Difficulties fully appreciated by Admty and were discussed by Minister and C.N.S. at Admiralty Staff meeting. Anticipated that number of R.N. Ships will be greatly reduced in very near future consequent upon certain plans involving co-operation of U.S. Naval Forces. This does not alter wish of Admty that complete project of essential work should be proceeded with as quickly as possible. (C.N.S., Canada, 1631B/14 to C.C.N.F.)

Convoy Cycles. A.M.1400A/13. Consider alteration in Cycle without inconvenience to N.E.F. could be made commencing with H.X.146 & C.C.41. Desirable that H.X. and S.C. Convoys sail on same day and O.N. fast and slow Convoys also sail approx. same day, this day being about two days previous to sailing of H.X. and S.C. (C.C.N.F., 1722Z/14 to C. in C. W.A.)

/EMBERLEY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

EMBERLEY, ODERIN. Following from Mission (begins). Your ADCAN 952. Newfoundland Govt. now report M.M.S. 119 and 120 named EMBERLEY and ODERIN should be ready to sail for U.K. 17/8. No date yet given for other 2 but anticipate very near future. (Highcoma Ottawa, 1845/14 to Admty).

ORION. Admty 1918/24/7 and N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0903/30/7 following programme (Trinidad to Mare Island) for ORION is proposed. (ORION, 1853/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Refugee Ships Bermuda. D.E.W. has informed H.M. Ambassador Madrid that all refugee ships must in future call at Bermuda for thorough examination of passengers and their baggage instead of Gibraltar. (D.E.W.D., 1936A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.S. STELLA Captured. Captured Italian S.S. STELLA in 024° 55' 040° 23' Prize Crew taking to Bermuda. (CIRCASSIA, 2000Z/14).

NORDERNEY sighted. Oiler BISHOPDALE sighted .S.S similar to WAKAMA in 010° 10' N., 043° 43' W. steering 010° at 2200/M This may be NORDERNEY. Take necessary action. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2103Q/14 to DESPATCH, CIRCASSIA).

St. Johns N.F. Progress re dockyard site. etc. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2110Z/14 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

LE TRIOMPHANT. C. in C. A.W.I., 1222Q/10 to LE TRIOMPHANT. B.A.D. Washington is becoming increasingly involved with arrangements for passage of LE TRIOMPHANT. Request I may be informed how long she is likely to be operating in Pacific and what is the nature of such operations. (B.A.D., Washington, 2127R/14 to Admty).

RESOLUTION. Your 1324R/8. Is required to arrive in U.K. as soon as possible. 17 days' working up cannot be accepted, and it should be limited to one week. Should circumstances indicate that ship is likely to become involved in action on passage to U.K. this period will be extended by Admty (Anticipated dates). (A.C.N.S. (H) 2335A/14 to B.A.R.M.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.8.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S Cruisers. NORTHAMPTON and SALT LAKE CITY left Port Moresby 0549Z/13 (?for) Rabaul. (A.C.N.B., 0253Z/14 to Admty etc).

Guns for M.V.s Your 1952B/5. 16 Commonwealth registered ships trading Australian coast of over 3,000 tons for which no guns are at present available. Also approx. 70 coastal ships between 500 tons and 3,000 tons the arming of which has not yet been considered. As there are no high angle guns mounted on any Australian Merchant ships, request any available high angle or dual purpose guns may be allocated. About 6 allied ships all under 3,000 tons permanently on the station which are not armed. (A.C.N.B., 0425Z/14 to Admty Request report of A.A. Armament provided in QUEEN ELIZABETH, QUEEN MARY, AQUITANIA. (D.T.D., 1236A/14 to A.C.N.B.)

LE TRIOMPHANT. Your 0105B/5. Is it intended that the ship remain at Tahiti? Fuel question. HAURAKI can take 450 tons arriving first week September but this entails depleting sugar cargoes. (N.Z.N.B., Wellington, 1018M/14).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

14.8.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

IDA KNUDSEN (torpedoed 21/7). Ref. N.C.S.I., 69 (A) Norwegian IDA KNUDSEN (B) 21/7 July 2100 G.M.T. 34.34N., 13.14 W., (C) and (D) Thrown overboard in locked iron box (E) 1200 fathoms (G) Master. Proceeding singly, sunk by four torpedoes. Two other torpedoes missed, One S/M sighted believed to be ENRICO JAZZOLI class. Another S/M stated remained by ship when submerged but this open to doubt though witnesses definite. Somewhat discounted by being dark night. Master and 13 of crew landed Freetown from Las Palmas. 24 unaccounted for. (C. in C. S.A., 0021N/14 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

2330/13. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 67 G. at 2330/13 G.M.T. -(D.D.I.C., 0121A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

0100 G.M.T. Italian S/M bearing 294/3 made a sighting report of H.G. 70 at 0100 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 0233A/14 to Escort H.G.70).

0245B. One U-boat in 035° 36' 015° 39' Course 270° speed unknown. (OSIRIS, 0245B/14 to V.A. Malta).

Estimated U-boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1517A/14).

2030B. Lost contact with U-boat in 032° 41' N., 027° 35' E., enemy C. and S. last 3 hours 310° 2.5 knots. Am remaining, in vicinity. (TALISMAN, 2030 B/14 to C. in C. Med).

2017 G.M.T. Bearing at 2017 G.M.T. of Italian U-boat 14 F. (D.D.I.C., 2154A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

2153 G.M.T. Bearings at 2153 G.M.T. of Italian U-boat 14 U. (D.D.I.C., 2338A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

H.M.T. ADAM, whilst attempting with H.M.T. FYLDEA to recover an air sea rescue float on the Varne Bank was slightly damaged by fire from Gris Nez and Calais batteries which fired about 29 rounds between 1631 and 1720.

Four M.T.B's left Dover at 2200 to sweep near Berck Buoy.

C.E.45. V.A. Dover in his 1006A/15 suggests reasons why C.E. 45 passed through the Straits without incident.

British Air Operations.

Minor attacks were made last night by Bomber Command aircraft on Boulogne and on Rotterdam docks.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two small attacks were made this afternoon on shipping off the East Coast. No damage is reported.

Mining.

5 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Instructions for the employment of the River class submarines at Gibraltar were issued by the Admiralty to-day.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

6 raiders were over Malta last night. No damage or casualties were caused.

URGE reports an encounter with two E-boats about 10 miles east of Augusta.

Libya and Western Desert.

Enemy aircraft last night made a sustained minelaying attack on Tobruk, but no mines fell in the harbour and no damage was caused. Mersa Matruh was also bombed; no naval damage is reported. There were 3 bombing attacks on Tobruk town and harbour to-day; no naval damage is reported.
KANDAHAR was bombed by enemy aircraft at 0619 to-day in 31.39 N., 26.35 E. and at 06450 in 31.44 N., 26.49 E.

Vichy ships in Turkey.

A convoy of interned Vichy ships ex Beirut left Iskanderun today for the Dardanelles under escort of Turkish Naval units. They are to be interned at Erdek.

America and West Indies.

NORDERNEY scuttled.

DESPATCH reports having intercepted the German S.S. NORDERNEY in 12° 14' N. 43° 24' W. The ship scuttled herself and had to be sunk by gunfire by PRETORIA CASTLE. NORDERNEY was first sighted by oiler BISHOPDALE at 2200/14 in 10° 10' N. 43° 43' W.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Force H. Relief of 8th D.F.

It is intended to relieve the 8th D.F. in Force H with the 4th D.F. and destroyers of 9 Escort Group less PIORUN and GARLAND.
2. VIIIth D.F. will join Western Approaches Command.
3. 4th D.F. less SIKH and MAORI will be required to leave U.K. for Gibraltar about (date) with FURIOUS. SIKH and MAORI will join Force H on -completion of refit.
4. NESTOR and ENCOUNTER are to be released on completion of Operation STATUS for onward passage to C. in C. Med. via Cape.
5. Such as are available of GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE, LIVELY, and ISAAC SWEERS will probably leave U.K. with W.S.11 about (date) and may proceed to Gibraltar on completion of convoy duties. FURY, FORESTER, and FORESIGHT are then to be sailed for U.K.
6. On arrival at Gibraltar of 9th E.G. they will form part of 4th D.F.
(V.C.N.S. 2258A/15).

Co-operation with Russia.

Air Service U.K. to Archangel.

See British Air Activity.

Movements.

PARTHIAN.
SEALION.

PARTHIAN and SEALION, routed as follows, arrive end Q.Z.S. 169 at 0545A August 19 and 21 respectively. (Capt. S.5 1009A/15 and 0906A/16).

ORUC REIS.

Amend my 1611A/14 to read from 0900A/20 to 30/8 for passage to Clyde and to attend as requisite during trials and for the return passage to Barrow. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1129A/15).

P.34.

My 1043B/30 July.
P.34 is to be sailed on 21/8 for Malta.
P.34 is to be ordered to dive by day until crossing parallel 047° N. and thence on surface at C.O's discretion. (F.O.S. 1224A/15).

O.14.

My 1929A/14. Unless in contact with enemy. Netherlands Sub.O.14 is to remain North of 059° 47' N. from 2359A/18 to 1200A/21. (Capt. S.9. 1425A/15 to O.14).

/S.M's.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

S/M's H.31 and O.10. — Escorted by Netherlands Torpedo Boat Z 5, sailing from Tobermory at 2100/15 Northbound through Minches, may be passed during early hours of morning 16th. (C. in C. W.A. 1959B/15 to POZARICA, etc.)

RAMILLIES. — A.M. 1838A/14 and 1927A/12 and 2235A/15. A.C.I.C. is requested to sail RAMILLIES as soon as destroyers are available. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide route. (A.C.N.S. H. 2308A/15).

Operations.

Operation "Grab". — "Grab" patrol out 1100/15. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0747A/15).
"Grab" patrol withdraws 1030/15. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1037A/15)

Operations E.G. — It is not intended operations E.G. should be carried out prior to "Dervish" and "Strength". (C. in C. H.F. 1432A/15 to C.S.1).

Sweep off Berck. — Four M.T.B's leave Dover 2200 to sweep in vicinity of Berck Buoy returning at about 0600/16. Route each way via D buoy. (V.A. Dover 1735A/15).

Operation "Follow". — (A) My 1124A/13. Para B. Leave Biscay South zone after dark to-night for Biscay North zone to carry out operation "Follow" on 17/8. S.B.R. in areas 54 and 55 extended for 24 hours.
(B) Add 24 hours to all times in S.5's 1748A/14. (F.O.S. 1846A/15 to SEALION).

FYLDEA, ADAM (M.S Trawlers) shelled. — FYLDEA and ADAM whilst attempting to recover an air sea rescue float on the Varne Bank were engaged by enemy coastal batteries when visibility suddenly improved. Between 1631 and 1720 Gris Nez battery fired about 27 rounds and Calais battery two rounds. Slight damage to ADAM and one serious casualty. (V.A. Dover 2149A/15);

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Bombing Operations. One M/V sunk.

During day 14/8 A/C attacked E and R Boats in Boulogne Harbour. Also near 54° 10' N. 7° 25' E. an M/V was attacked by 3 aircraft, received two direct hits, and was last seen on fird in a sinking condition. (H.Q.B.C. 0038/15).

Patrols.

'Stand' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0156/15 and 1017/15).
A/S Patrol of exercise Area West of Orkneys will be flown by 18 Group from 0430 to 0900 today. Also 'Nose' three during daylight hours. (C. in C. Rosyth 0214/15).
'Stab', 'Bert' and P.R.U. Stavanger now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1132/15).

U.K. Archangel Air Service.

Reference X.41 14/8. Facilities will be available at Sullom Voe and Invergordon. Sullom Voe will be used as a topping up station and Invergordon will be the terminal. (H.Q.C.C. 1435/15 to Air Ministry.) Your X.41 14/8 Suggest consolidated P.B.Y. (Catalina) lands at Invergordon and observes following conditions. (H.Q.C.C. to Air Ministry.)

Bombing operations.

On night 14/15 fires were started by A/C at Boulogne and Rotterdam, and Helder, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, and Rotterdam Docks were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. Recd. 2111/15).

Firing of Recognition Cartridge.

X.112 15/8. Request any information available of any aircraft firing a recognition cartridge within five minutes of 2200 hours B.S.T. the nightof 14/8 near Yarmouth Lowestoft. (Air Ministry 2105/15).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C. 60. WAR NIZAM. (R.F.A) damaged.

WAR NIZAM arrived Killingholme having sustained damage in air attack on E. C. 60 last night. (F.O. Humber 1345A/15-).

Convoy F.S. 67.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy 'Plumb' in 51° 56' N. 1° 40' E. (VALOROUS 1502/15).

Convoy 'Might'.

1 Aircraft bearing 130° height less than 100 feet. My position at 1530, 54° 30' N. 0° 30' W. (WESTMINSTER, Recd. 1539/15) (VORTIGERN 1532/15).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

WELSHMAN. Your 1736/13. Concur. (D. D.O.D. M. 1115A/15 to C. in C. Rosyth).

S.N.70A. Your 1746A/14. Concur that operation S.N. 70A can be deferred. (C. in C. H.F. 1157A/15).
Operation S.N. 70A must be postponed for a few days as your destroyers are required to proceed to Iceland to screen RAMILLIES to Liverpool.
2. R.A. (M) is requested to sail destroyers for Iceland (C) as soon as practicable. (A.C.N.S. H. 2235A/15 to R.A.M.).

St. Georges Channel Sweep. Your 1754A/13. Dan buoying of channel completed. 50% search of 3.25 miles on each side of a centre line joining following [illegible] positions completed. Nothing found. One British mark XIX floating mine sunk in 051° 58' N. 006° 15' W. Anticipate completing channel p.m. tomorrow. (S.O. 9th M/S F. 2210/15).

Casualties and Defects.

MAORI. MAORI did not sail owing to defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0904A/15).

PASTEUR. Your 0219A/13/8. It is possible that repairs to PASTEUR might be completed in 14 days but this cannot be guaranteed. Agents suggest 3 weeks to complete the work satisfactorily and it is most essential that the work be carried out. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 0955A/15 to D. of S.T.)

KIRIN MAIMIE (Balloon Barrage Yachts) damaged on 12/8. KIRIN reports having caused damage to Dock property in Burnt Island at 1630/12, and KIRIN and MAIMIE were superficially damaged by coming into contact with each other about one hour before. Both vessels are seaworthy. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1540/15).

S/M B.1. Explosion on 8/8. S.6's 1055B /8 . Consider Board of Inquiry should be convened by C. in C. Rosyth. In view of agreement between Governments of U.K. and Norway regarding Norwegian Armed Forces in U.K. request concurrence of C. in C. Norwegian Navy be obtained and that he be requested to nominate a Norwegian Naval Officer to sit as member. (C. in C. Rosyth 1550/15).

/ROCKINGHAM.....

MOST SECRET.

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Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

ROCKINGHAM. My 1633B/9 and your 2336B/9. Further defects have developed in ROCKINGHAM. Expect to sail her 19/8 forLondonderry. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1947A/15).

Hartlepool. Port of Hartlepool will be closed from 0645/16th August for salvage operations. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1950/15).

FAULKNOR. Starboard shaft out of action. (FAULKNOR 2200A/15)

Shipping and Convoys.

C.E. 45. C.E. 45 passed through Strait without incident. It is considered that this may have been so owing to (A) Lack of warning of its approach due to absence of enemy air R/C and the closehauling of balloons at Beachy Head to limit range of enemy R.D.F.
(B) The enemy having analysed wireless traffic during passage of C.W. 45 and thereby appreciated the scope of our R.D.F. (Type N.T. 271) and the activities of our intercepting craft. Further experience is required to confirm these suppositions. (V.A. Dover 1006A/15).

North America Convoys. Your 1400A/13 and C. in C. W.A. 1253B/5. No objection to revised cycle. Request information as to proposed sailing dates of H.G. 73 and H.G. 74. (F.O.C.N.A. 1220A/15 to Admty.)
Ad. 1400A/13. Assuming time on passage between Liverpool and Gibraltar for O.G. and H.G. Convoys will not exceed 15 days, propose O. G. 72 sail on 28/8 and thereafter every 15 days, and that H.G. 71 be sailed so as to arrive at Liverpool on 2/9 and thereafter every 15 days. W.R. North routed convoys, propose H.X. 145 should arrive Eastern R/V on 26/8 and thereafter every 6 days - that S.C. 41 should arrive Eastern R/V on 4/9, and thereafter every 6 days. O.N. convoys being sailed accordingly. O.N. slow O.N. (10) sailing 26/8 thereafter every 6 days. O.N. fast O.N. (11) 29/8 thereafter every 6 days.
Note that pending return of escort from Newfoundland there will not normally be any U.K. local destroyer escorts on Gibraltar convoy since these are required for additional convoys on Northern route. The normal all the way escort for Gibraltar convoy should be 2 Sloops and 7 Corvettes. (C. in C. W.A. 1544A/15 to Admty., C. C. N.F., F.O.C.N.A).

/W.P. 19.....

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

W.P. 19. Your 1044/14 and 1255/11. No destroyer is available for escort of W.P. 19.. Intend to augment escort of one A/S Yacht and two chasseurs by two trawlers from Portland. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1437A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth).

O.S/S.L. Convoys. My 1544A/15. The O.S/S.L. convoys will now comprise a separate circuit from the escort point of view. Observing that the O.S. and S.L. convoys are respectively 8 knots and 6½ knots, and since sailing of the S.L. convoys on a 10-day cycle must be arranged to suit Freetown and Bathurst escort requirements, arrival of the S.L.convoys at the W.A. R/V will result in the U.K. O.S. escorts not normally being able to meet the S.L. convoys at this R/V. Arrangements will, therefore, be necessary to sail the U.K. escorts empty-handed to meet the S.L. convoys, and similarly for the U.K. escorts on -O.S. convoys to return empty-handed. This is uneconomical, but can be accepted. (C. in C. W.A. 1545A/15 to Adty.)

C.W.46. Stationing of escorts of C.W.46 between Downs and daylight the following morning is to be as follows.
3. Re balloons.
4. If E.boats are detected.
5. Re M.L's. (C. in C. Nore 1646A/15 amended 2242A/16).

H.X. 141. H.X. 141 met as arranged. Fair weather. A good convoy with no stragglers. All ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1912A/15).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Iron Ore Trade. Now known that Italian EUGENIO C., 4078 tons, at present in dock at Ferrol, and 3 other Italian steamers, about to be employed in Spanish ore trade from Bilbao to occupied France on behalf of Germans. Other 3 ships are probably DREPANUM 2736 tons, EDERA, 5254 tons, and FIDELITAS, 5740 tons, all at Ferrol. (D.S., 710, 15/8).

Convoy Cycles. Your 1400A/13 and C. in C. W.A. 1253B/5 no objection to revised cycle. Request information as to proposed sailing dates of H.G. 73 and H.G. 74. (F.O.C.N.A., 1220A/15 to Admty).

ARK ROYAL. Your 1057B/20. In view of difficulties in arranging future disposition and refits of Aircraft Carriers do you consider ARK ROYAL can be kept in Service until Mid November. F.O.C.N.A. pass to F.O. Force H on return. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1724A/15 to S.O. Force H).

French Ships. Gibraltar 0950/15 Destroyer TEMPETE S.S. MEDIE 2 Light passed westbound. 1525 Armed Trawler TOULONNAISE S.S. CHENONCEAUX AUVERGNE both laden PORT DE BOUC Light eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1727A/15).

S.S BERGA (Spanish). Consul Malaga informed me that this vessel engaged in Pyrites trade with Genoa would be handed over to a British Patrol by Master and Chief Engineer both Basques. Vessel was accordingly intercepted by H.M.T. LADY HOGARTH outside territorial waters near Capo de Gata on 14/8 and has now arrived Gibraltar. Master and Engineer desirous to serve in British Merchant Navy. (F.O.C.N.A., 1728A/15 to Admty) See also Mediterrmnean.

MIRROR. Departure HAARLEM escorting cable ship MIRROR to effect repair in 36.06 N., 07.46 W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1742A/15).

River Class S/Ms. Employment of. (A.C.N.S. (F), 2249A/15)
See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

BALZAC. Reported from Bahia, Brazil, boat found with bullet holes. Ship sailed from Capetown 7/6 for Pernambuco, due 25/6. Now presumed sunk by enemy raider, as she was in same area as TOTTENHAM, shelled and sunk by raider on 17/6, about 320 miles W. of Ascension Island. (D.S. 710 15/8).

Flag of R.A.S.A.D. (Corrupt group) flag R.A.S.A.D. transferred BIRMINGHAM 14/8. (R.A.S.A.D., 0045Z/15).

KING GRUFFYDD. Will pay off and revert Merchant ship status at Port Elizabeth. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0748Z/15).

French convoy from Madagascar. My 1020/7 and my 1025/7 report Al that VILLE D'ORAN LINOIS, DALNY, LIPARI and SAGITTAIRE left Tamatave 1230Z/12 in nome-ward voyage escorted by sloop and tanker LOT. Same report continues graded A2, that tanker will supply another escort which will be meeting convoy later. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0943Z/15).

NORDERNEY. Re. 2103/14 C. in C. A.W.I. take necessary action. (C. in C. S.A., 1200N/15 to PRETORIA CASTLE).

Convoy routes O.S.2 S.L. 84. Your 1357N/14. Request you divert O.S. 2 and S.L. 84 as you consider advisable. (D.T.D., 1441A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

CHESHIRE, CILICIA. Your 1131N/13. CHESHIRE has not given leave in U.K. since April 1940, request you will consider substituting CHESHIRE for CILICIA for the escort from Freetown to U.K.
2. If you concur it is then proposed that CHESHIRE should remain in U.K. long enough to give leave off 10 days to each watch.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 1826A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
Concur (C. in C. S.A., 2300N/17).

New C. in C. Your 0100/14. Re visits to West and South Africa. (C. in C. S.A., 1951N/15 to Admty for 1st S.L.)
See Lion Copy.

S.S. ADVANCE (Finnish.) Reported to be leaving Santos p.m./15 for Rio De Janeiro. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2319Z/15).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TALISMAN. Your 2030B. Proceed Alexandria forthwith, report ETA Sanctuary. (Capt. S.1., 0025C/15 to TALISMAN).

TORBAY. Your 2341C/14 and my 1450C/11 proceed with despatch through position (a) thence direct to spend 16th off Cape Matapan, 17th Antikithera Channel. (Capt. S.1., 0105C/15 to TORBAY).

KANDAHAR bombed. Following has been read. Help 31.39 N., 26.35 E. (KANDAHAR , via Nore W/T 0619/15 to Alexandria W/T). Following has been read. Addressed Alexandria W/T from KANDAHAR. Enemy Aircraft bombing 31.44 N., 26.49 E. (Nore W/T, 0645C/15).

3 Enemy M.Vs. P.C. and S. of enemy three Merchant Vessels 1 (?Escort Vessel) 37° 53' N., 16° 3' E. 270° 6 knots. (A/C Z 1055/15).
My 1055 Enemy previously reported are 1 merchant vessel 3000 9 (?merchant vessels) 1000 enemy are in single line ahead. (A/C Z, 1100/15).

E-boats. URGE reports encounter with two E-boats about 10 miles east of Augusta.
(Comdr. (S) 1, 1016B/15 to URSULA).

Air attack on Corinth Canal. 2. Greece. Night 13/14, 32 Wellingtons attacked Corinth Canal bombs. Several crews confirm canal blocked. 4 of above Wellingtons with 1 which failed to reach canal dropped bombs on Heraklion Crete in transit and extinguished searchlights.

Cyprus bombed. 3. Cyprus 14/8 Limassol and Larnica bombed by total 8 enemy aircraft. 2 factories damaged near Limassol Civilian Casualties.
4. Western Desert 14/8. Fighter protection provided for shipping off Egyptian Coast. R/C of enemy Shipping off Cyrenaica. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1021/15).

Fast Supply Ships. Your 1045/11 para 2. 2 Princess Ships gratefully accepted. If no further delay both should be fitted as petrol carriers with derricks. Para 3. A Cross channel steamer in addition to ANTWERP, MALINES and PRINCE BAUDOUIN not required in view of poor cargo capacity. Para. 4 Trawlers could be most usefully employed if their speed was confirmed 14 knots. In 28th A/S Group one Ship is 11½ knots remainder 10 knots. Para 5. Cargo carrier of 12 knots would be most useful. Request she be sailed as soon as A/A armament is fitted. (C. in C. Med., 1125C/15 to Admty).

/TALISMAN.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TALISMAN. My 0740/14. TALISMAN is (?late in) arriving. (?R.A. Alexandria, 1130C/15 to Plaindress D. /Os for KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY.).

Orders for S/Ms. My 1601B/14. At 2100/18 unless second convoy is sighted before then P.32 resume patrol in area V UNIQUE proceed to Area T and P. 33 proceed direct to 035° 30' 014° 10' to arrive Marsamxett before 2030B/19 or after 0630B/20. (Comdr. (S)1 1144B/15 to P.32, P.33).

TARVISIO. Situation (from Admiral Kelly). Turkey has refused passage through Straits. Has no guns or arms on board. Believed some form of inspection has taken place. (N.A. Angora 1217/13) See Lion Copy.

ANSON. As ANSON cannot make Mombasa in present Monsoon conditions owing to lack of fuel endurance C. in C. E.I. suggests ship should go to Bombay. I propose to concur if Admty see no objection. (C. in C. Med., 1305C/15). Your 1305/15 no objection. (V.C.N.S., 1914A/15).

Middle East. Chiefs of Staff No. 159. Situation and air strength. (1st S.L., 1446A/15 to C. in C. Med). (W.O., 1705/15 to C. in C. M.E.) See Lion Copy. See Tiger Copy.

GUPERGA. (Tanker) passed Istanbul for Bourgas 15/8 in ballast. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1538C/15).

Aratolia and Persia. Chiefs of Staff no. 158. (W.O. 1600/15 to C. in C. M.E.) See Lion Copy.

Air Operations. Day 14/8. 9 Swordfish made most successful attack southbound convoy of 5 M.V.s. 5 DR.s 30 miles South Lampion at 2250. 1 M/V 6000 tons, 2 M.V.s 3000 tons and 1 DR. Each hit by 1 Torpedo. Large explosion on M.V. 600 tons and when last seen was well down by the stern with thick black pall of smoke over her. 1 M/V 3000 tons also left issuing volumes of black smoke. Another M.V. 3000 tons had heavy list to port and DR. seen transferring crew to another DR. Only 3 M.V.s seen today approaching Tripoli. Escorts having gone ahead are thoroughly searched for stragglers but no trace therefore almost certain that 1 M.V. 6000 tons and 1 M.V. 3000 tons and DR. sunk.

/4 Wellingtons.....

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air Operations. Contd.

4 Wellingtons each made 2 attacks on shipping in Catania. 16 500 pounds H.E. and incendiaries on Catania. Bursts seen on Central Mole which photographs show covered with goods trucks stores and cases which cannot fail to have been damaged also railway and probably M/Vs alongside.
2 early sorties missed Catania bad visibility and attacked Augusta harbour with 4,500 pounds. H.E. and 1,440 pounds incendiaries fell railway sidings and citadel all aircraft returned safely. Day 14/8 Blenheims made shipping sweep between Tripoli and Benghazi attacked 2 tankers 4000 tons and 2 Schooners 800 tons off Buerft 0920 hours. All 4 ships hit 1 tanker exploded and another left on fire, with volumes of black smoke. Both probably sunk. 1 Schooner on fire, the other with bad list. 2 Blenheims lost.
(Malta, 1716/15).

S.S. BERGA (Spanish).

From Malaga and cleared nominally to Castellon de la Plana intercepted off Almeria and brought in by armed guard. Cargo 1018 tons Pyrites destination Genoa for forwarding to Metallgesell Schaft A G Frankfurt A Maine vessel detained pending instructions. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 1747/15 to Admty) See also North Atlantic.

Movements Summary No. 214.

C. in C. Med., 1818/15 1820C/15. See Lion Copy.

P.33.

My 1144B/13. Amend date of arrival to 20th or 21st. (S.O.(S) Malta, 2005B/15 to S/M P.33).

Prisoners ex HEREWARD.

Your 10460/13. Naval officers already known to be prisoners but whereabouts unknown.
(Admty, 2201A/15 to C. in C. Med).

Situation Report 118.

HOBART, and two Destroyers now operating from Haifa for operation 'Guillotine'. French Ships of Convoy A have arrived Beirut. (?Movements) of interned Vichy Ships further delayed.
(C. in C. Med., 2301/15 to Admty).

Malta Raid.

Malta. Night 14/15. 6 Raiders over. No damage or casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, No. T.O.O.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

VOYAGER, NUBIAN, ISIS. — Your 0728/14 (0728/14). Sail VOYAGER in company with NUBIAN and ISIS to Bombay for onward passage to Sydney. (C. in C. E.I., 0449Z/15 to S.N.O.R.S.)

CARTHAGE. — Following patrol ? ordered. CARTHAGE leaves Durban A.M./17 returning A.M./26.
(C. in C. E.I., 0728Z/15 to N.L.O. Durban).

AUSTRALIA. — Re visit to certain places. (C. in C. E.I., 1428Z/15) See Operations Volume.

China.

1st S.L. 1442A/15 amended to 1216A/16 to C. in C. China.
See Operations Volume.

America & West Indies.

PRINCE ROBERT. — Navy Board Wellington 0010Z/15. Request you instruct PRINCE ROBERT direct if you wish to alter her destination.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1002Q/15 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa).
Proceed Esquimalt.
(C. in C.AW.I., 1302Q/15 to PRINCE ROBERT).
Your 2312Q/13 and N.Z.N.B.'s 0010M/15 request PRINCE ROBERT be (2 Corrupt groups) Esquimalt.
On her arrival at Esquimalt PRINCE HENRY is available for your disposition.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1341Z/15 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.V. BASSELOURDE. — RESTIVE left St. Johns p.m./14 to tow in French Schooner BASSELOURDE being brought in for examination having been intercepted by POLYANTHUS
Expected return p.m./15.
(C.C.N.P., 1437Z/15 to Admty).

/RODNEY.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RODNEY. My 1542R/7. Dates of leaving Boston and arrival Bermuda. (B.A.R.M., 1502R/15 to Admty).

VICIA. Your 1926/14. VICIA's voyage to Dublin has been approved. She should be allowed to proceed in convoy and should not be seized in prize. (D.T.D., 1748A/15 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

NORDERNEY intercepted. DESPATCH reports having intercepted NORDENEY in 012° 14' N., 043° 24' W., NORDERNEY scuttled and DESPATCH endeavoured to salve. Oiler BISHOPSDALE in company. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1822Q/15 to Admty,) See 2312/15.

AFRICANA HIMALAYA. Proceed on passage to Freetown. Following Italian ships still unlocated.
(a) AFRICANA left Pernambuco with STELLA, 30/7 Description. (b) HIMALAYA left Rio de Janeiro 30/7. Description. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1332Q/15 to CIRCASSIA).

PRINCE HENRY. N.S.H.Q. 1341Z/15. In view of absence of raider activity in Pacific I am very anxious to employ PRINCE HENRY in Atlantic where she is badly needed. Request your remarks. (C. in C, A.W.I., 1842Q/15 to N.Z.N.B.)

Finnish Ships. Instructions received from N.S.H.Q. Ottawa that reference Admty 1944B/5, H.M.Canadian ships are to -seize all ships flying Finnish Flag on high seas. (C.O.P.C., Esquimalt, 2031Z/15 to PRINCE ROBERT).

French Convoy from Tamatave. S.O.(I) Capetown forwards following report received 6/ 8 grade A.O. Begins. Six merchant ships fully loaded now at Tamatave homeward bound, waiting for escort which will be MONTCALM. Ends.
According to information available here MONTCALM was either at Casablanca or Dakar on 2/8 and Merchant vessels may be LIPARI (9954 G.R.T.) SAGITTAIRE (7706) VILLE D'ORAN (4861) LINIOS (7573) and possibly DALNY (6673) and COMMANDANT DORISE (5529).
In view of considerable naval effort involved in intercepting such a convoy more definite information is required. Request you ask U.S. Authorities whether they can throw any light on the accuracy of the report with as little delay as possible. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2122A/15 to B.A.D., Washington).

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Convoy Cycles.

Your 1400/13. Suggest for consideration that under these conditions SHX convoys be abloished. This would cause some extra steaming to about five ships per convoy but would obviate junction and local escort problems.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2217Z/15 to Admty) Concur.
(D.T.D., 1705/16).

NORDERNEY. Prisoners.

Your 0012Z/16. After fuelling at Trinidad proceed to Jamaica to land 38 German prisoners ex NORDERNEY. This is necessary owing to congestion at Trinidad and Bermuda.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2312Z/15 to S.O. West Indies Force).

Australia & New Zealand.

H.M.T. QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Arrived (?Fremantle) 0112Z/15.
(N.B. Melbourne 1829Z/15).

PRINCE ROBERT.

C. in C. A.W.I., 2312Q/13 Suggest PRINCE ROBERT returns to Esquimalt in accordance with your 1936Z/12. (N.Z.N.B. Wellington, 0010Z/15).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMAPIGN.

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN (torpedoed 29/7). Master CHARLBURY reports that no acknowledgment or repetition by Shore Station of Distress message from SHAHRISTAN was heard by his W/T operator. Message referred to was made on emergency spark set and read as follows SSSS de (GNGS) SHAHRISTAN 35. 20 N., 24.00 W., torpedoed and on fire aft (end). These steamers had dispersed from convoy O.G. 69 shortly before signal was made. (N.C.S.O., Rio de Janeiro, 1131/15 to S.O.(I) Freetown).

Submarines Reported.

2153 G.M.T. Bearings at 2153 G.M.T. of Italian U-boat 14 U. (F.O.C.N.A., 0101A/15 to N.A. Stn).

0048 G.M.T. Italian Submarine Identity 67 L bearing 290/3 at 0048 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 0205A/15 to N.A. Stn).

PARTHIAN reported. D/F Bearings at 0710 G.M.T. indicate that PARTHIAN may have been reported by Italian U-boat (D.D.I.C., 0925A/15 to PARTHIAN, H.Q.C.C.) My 0925A/15 Italian U-boat has made further signals at 0859 and 0922 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1110A/15).

0330/5 by S. ELENA. My 1145/10 there was no Chilean ship in the vicinity but further information received by U.S.N.A. indicates report should be grade C.3. (A.N.A. Santiago de Chile 1300/15). U.S.A. N.A. Lima investigated report on board S. ELENA on arrival of latter Callao and considers report groundless. (N.A. Lima, 1534R/15).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1406A/15).

1426Z. By D/F 46° 30' N., 12° 30' W. (D.D.I.C., 1637A/15).

1522Z. By D/F estimated position of U-boat was within 100 miles of 42° 30' N., 19° 30' W. (D.D.I.C., 1747A/15).

/1530C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

15.8.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1530 C by TORBAY. U-boat surfaced and quickly submerged at 1530 C 34° 5⅝' 021° 12' course westerly range 5 miles. 1630 both periscopes seen. Searching vicinity till moonlight. (TORBAY, 2101C/15).

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C Am over enemy submarine in position 58° 45' N., 4° 55' W., have attacked enemy with bombs dive and estimate hits nil. (A/C E. 612 2140/15). A/CE612's 2140/15 oil streak only sighted. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2246/15).

MOST SECRET

16.8.1941.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

It is reported today from the H.S.L Base at Felixtowe that H.S.L. 108 was lost in the North Sea on the 1st July. She may have been captured intact and the documents on board her may have been compromised.

PICOTEE lost.

The Corvette PICOTEE, which left Greenock at 0825B/7 to join Convoy O.N. 4 and was heard to drop Depth Charges during the night after the Iceland portion of the Convoy had been detached, failed to rejoin the Convoy afterwards and has not been sighted by A/C from Iceland. It is feared that she may be a casualty.

The port of Hartlepool was opened this morning for small vessels but will be closed from 0700/17 until further notice.

At 0955 today the 3 major Enemy Ships at Brest were in their usual positions and their docks were seen to be dry. Five 500-ton U-Boats and two REDOUBTABLE's were also there.

British Air Operations

Two Fortresses bombed Brest today. One burst was seen in the docks.

MOST SECRET

16.8.1941.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Operations

Yarmouth was bombed last night. No naval damage or casualties occurred.
Arbroath was bombed today. Lowestoft and Ramsgate were bombed this evening without naval damage except at Lowestoft where some damage and casualties were caused and tug NESS POINT was sunk in Waveney Dock.

At 1135 the A.B.V. NORTHERN SKY was attacked off the Faeroes resulting in slight damage and casualties. The plane jettisoned its bombs and flew off, and is believed to have been damaged.

At 2116 determined low flying attacks by at least 6 aircraft were made on Convoy E.C. 61 in 52° 59' N., 1° 55' E. No apparent damage was caused to the convoy. One enemy plane was destroyed by the combined fire of ships and escort, finally striking the balloon wire of SS NEPHRITE and crashing.
VALOROUS and VIMIERA each damaged one aircraft.
At 2146 VIMIERA reported that 4 enemy aircraft were attacking the rear of the convoy, but were driven off. SS SUNTRAP was slightly damaged but proceeded with the convoy.

M.S. Group 13 report having brought down a Ju.88 at 2125A today off Yarmouth.

South Atlantic

The Brazilian Minister for foreign affairs has assured our ambassador that in future no enemy refugee ships will be permitted to sail from Brazilian ports.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

16.8.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

S/M 0.23, operating in the Western Mediterranean attacked a convoy today and probably hit 2 ships.

Malta

4 raids on Malta last night caused civilian damage and casualties only.

Naples

It is reported that during the last two air attacks on Naples two tramp steamers were sunk and the cruisers GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI and DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI each received a hit on the stern.

Catania attacked.

9 Wellingtons attacked the port of Catania last night. It is believed that oil tanks were hit; the resulting fire, followed by explosions was visible for 70 miles.

Libya and Western Desert.

KANDAHAR reported enemy aircraft bombing at 17200 today in 31.38 N., 26.28 E. Fighters were sent to her assistance.

Wellingtons bombed shipping in Benghazi harbour last night, bombs falling near a tanker.
3 Naval and 4 R.A.F. aircraft attacked with bombs and torpedo a submarine reported in Bardia harbour, but no success is reported.

The scale of enemy air attack on Mersa Tobruk has increased, with dive bombing and minelaying raids. Supplies continue to be carried by two destroyers running nightly, as well as "A" lighters and schooners.

Cyprus

Two Greek merchantmen, AGHIOS NICOLAOS and VARVARA have reached Famagusta from Istanbul.

TARVISIO

An Ankara broadcast today stated that permission had been given to the Italian naval auxiliary tanker to proceed from Chanak to the Black Sea, but the vessel had not yet moved.

MOST SECRET

16.8.1941.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

Raiders

According to a prisoner from Raider 33, prizes are believed not to be sent home but to hidden fjords in the Crozet or Kerguelen Islands where they can only be seen from the air. Raider 36, stated to be a Hansa vessel similar to 33 and 16, is possibly at present in Indian Ocean.

Slight damage has occurred to PRIMULA from suspected sabotage at Durban.

America & West Indies

NORDERNEY Sunk.

S.O.West Indies Force reports it was impossible to save NORDERNEY, intercepted yesterday by DESPATCH. 38 prisoners are being landed at Trinidad.

Convoys

Admty. concur on the proposal of N.S.H.Q. Ottawa to abolish S.H.X. convoys. This will cause some extra steaming to about 5 ships per convoy, but will obviate junction and local escort problems.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

16.8.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

U-Boat Campaign

S/M's Attacked.

200 Group, Gibraltar, reports that U-Boat depth charged by Catalina A/C on 13/8 has not yet returned to base and is 38 days out. Nothing heard since attack. Also that U-Boat attacked at 1416/6 and last sighted on surface is still being called unsuccessfully by base.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

RENOWN. Admiralty's 2332B/15/7/41. Space is urgently required for Power rooms. If it is intended that torpedoes should be removed permanently, submit that torpedo tubes be landed and that Warhead room be utilised for Power room. (RENOWN, 1644/16).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Identification Signals. Admty 1818B/22/6. U.S. Signals continue as follows. (D.S.D., 1945A/16).

Co-operation with Russia.

M/S Gear. Your 10030/10. It has been decided to disclose to Mission here details of LL and S.A. Sweeps, and you are free to make similar disclosures. It must be understood that we are not in a position to supply equipment for either type of sweep because of our own needs. (D.T.M., 1610A/16 to N.A. Moscow).

Movements.

LONDON. Your 1101A/15. Inward route as follows. Thence to Scapa. (C. in C. W.A., 0630A/16 to LONDON).

SAGUENAY, ASSINIBOINE. After fuelling proceed in company to St. Johns N.F. (PRINCE OF WALES, 1002Z/16).
Your 1456/16. ASSINIBOINE and SAGUENAY should now be sailed for St. John's Newfoundland.
2. A good look out for U-boats should be kept especially between 61° 30' N., and 59° N. and longitudes 29° and 32° W. (A.C.N.S. H., 2239A/16).

VALOROUS. Your 0856A. Intend sailing M/Ls 230,193, 190 in time for R/V with VALOROUS in vicinity of 54 G Buoy at 2000. (N.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1132A/16).

RAMILLIES, HESPERUS. Admty 2308A/15 not to C.C.N.F. Request you will sail HESPERUS as additional A/S escort. She will be detached to Immingham on passage. (C. in C. W.A., 1158/16 to A.C.I.C.)

SALAMANDER, HALCYON, BLACK RANGER. SALAMANDER, HALCYON, and R.F.A. BLACK RANGER are to sail from Seidis Fjord p.m./17 and proceed to Hvalfjord. (C. in C. H.F., 1210A/16).

/PENELOPE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

PENELOPE. Is to sail from Rosyth at 0800/17 and proceed to Scapa to arrive in daylight p.m./17. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1251/16).
My 1251/16. PENELOPE ET.A. Scapa 2000/17. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2137/16).

ASCANIA. Intend sailing ASCANIA for Bermuda at 0900P/17. E.T.A. 1400Q/19. (F.O.C. 3rd B.S., 1337P/16).

CASTLETON CHARLESTOWN. When released from W.S. 8 C. proceed Loch Foyle and complete with fuel and water thence proceeding with despatch to Hvalfjord and escort RAMILLIES to Liverpool. (R.A.M. 1354A/16).
My 1354A/16. Anticipate destroyer will arrive Hvalfjord a.m./19. (R.A.M., 1355A/16 to RAMILLIES).

A.F.D. IV. Your 1314/14. Intend to sail POZARICA and VIVIEN to carry out this duty. S.O. POZARICA. (C. in C. W.A., 1548A/16 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations.

Tablecloth Defence. Anticipate TONBRIDGE will complete laying 23 miles Tablecloth defence between Bacton and Blakeney by 23/8. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 1108A/16).

H.S.L.108 lost on 1/7/41. O.C. of H.S.L. Base Felixstowe reports loss of H.S.L. 108 on 1/7/41 in about 53° 34' N., 4° E. S.P. 02229 copy No. 6364 was on board at time of loss and it is possible that launch was captured intact. It is not known if secret and confidential documents were jettisoned. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1565/16).

British Air Activity.

Patrols. NOSE 4 in operation until dusk. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0844/16).
My 0844/16. A/C encountered low visibility and has discontinued patrol. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0930/16).

ARGUS. Your 1941B/8. Embarkation of aircraft completed except for Martlet spares not yet received. (ARGUS, 1417A/16 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Arbroath bombed.

At 0829/16 one twin engine A/C dipped out of cloud for 2 or 3 seconds and dropped two H.E. bombs on aerodrome disappearing in cloud immediately afterwards. Two craters in aerodrome surface. No casualties. All guns closed up. No guns fired. (N.A.S. Arbroath, 0815A/16).

Yarmouth bombed.

Great Yarmouth bombed night 15/16. A to D nil. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 0925A/16).

NORTHERN SKY, (Armed Boarding Vessel) damaged.

My 1135. Was attacked by Heinkel 111 and 1130 in 061° 43' N., 006° 20' W.
Slight damage and casualties. Am continuing voyage. Plane believed damaged. It did not attack again. Jettisoned bombs and flew off, course 045°. (NORTHERN SKY, 1206/16).

Convoy E.C.61.

Enemy aircraft bombing convoy YIELD, position 52° 59' N., 1° 55' E. (VALOROUS, 2116/16).
My 2116. Determined low flying attacks by at least 6 aircraft. No apparent damage. SHEARWATER report 1 enemy aircraft destroyed.
(VALOROUS, 2145A/16).
4 enemy aircraft attacking rear of YIELD. Driven off to Eastward. 1 apparently hit and burning by four inch fire from VIMIERA.
(VIMIERA, 2146A/16).
My 2145. Add 1 aircraft damaged by VALOROUS, 1 aircraft damaged by VIMIERA.
(VALOROUS, 2254A/16).

Lowestoft bombed.

Lowestoft bombed at 2205A. Canteen wrecked. 3 casualties. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 2320A/16).

Ramsgate bombed.

At 2130 2 H.E. bombs appear to have been dropped in sea off East Cliff.
At 2140 4 H.E. bombs dropped in town. 4 houses demolished, 2 seriously damaged, others slightly damaged. No naval casualties or damage.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate, 2325A/16).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

9th and 13th M/S Flotillas. Your 2210/15. On completion of present operation and when danbuoys have been weighed 9th and 13th M.S.F. are to return to Portland to continue previous clearance operation. (A.C.N.S. H., 1309A/16 to S.O., 9 M/S F.)

Humber. At 1235/16 one mine detonated by L L Trawlers in Humber. Details. (F.O. Humber 1743A/16).

SJOBORG (Faeroes Schooner) sunk. Survivors report vessel sunk by underwater explosion at 1200/13 in alleged position 061° 31' N., 005° 40' W. Three of the crew lost. Skipper well aware of prohibited area. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 2133/16).

Enemy Intelligence.

German Units in Norwegian Waters. NURNBERG - At Horten, 9/8. 4 or 5 destroyers in Northern Norwegian Waters. (D.D.I.C., 1212A/16 to S.B.N.O. Murmansk).

Casualties & Defects.

Hartlepool. My 1950/15. Salvage operations temporarily abandoned. Port of Hartlepool open. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 0535/16).
Port of Hartlepool will be closed from 0700/17 until further notice. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1500/16

HEARTSEASE. (Corvette). Have lost Oscillator and training shaft. Ship not seaworthy. Am returning to Harbour. (HEARTSEASE 0950A/16).
Capt. D. Greenock's 1254/15. HEARTSEASE returned to Greenock with defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1657A/16).
Sailed HEARTSEASE to overtake convoy O.N.7. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1959A/16).

PICOTEE (Corvette.) Have you any news of PICOTEE. What information did AYRSHIRE give you. (C. in C. W.A., 1027A/16 to A.C.I.C.)
Your 1027A/16. No further information of PICOTEE. AYRSHIRE reported PICOTEE was heard dropping stick of depth charges during the night after Iceland portion had been detached from O.N.4 and that PICOTEE had not rejoined AYRSHIRE afterwards. It was assumed PICOTEE had rejoined her group. She has not however been sighted by A/C from Iceland. (A.C.I.C., 1144/16 to C. in C. W.A.)
Report immediately your position, course, and speed. (C. in C. W.A., 1827A/16 to PICOTEE).

/In view.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

PICOTEE (Corvette). Contd.

In view of A.C.I.C., 1144/16 and in absence of any reply to my 1827A/16 I feel that there is grave cause for anxiety that PICOTEE may be a casualty. PICOTEE belongs to 4th Escort Group based on Greenock. (C. in C. W.A., 2201A/16). If you have not already done so request you will arrange air search as soon as possible for possible survivors of PICOTEE in area 61° to 62° 30' N., and 014° to 018° W.
(C. in C. W.A., 2206A/16 to A.C.I.C.)

KING GEORGE V.

Your 0251A/15. Approved to take KING GEORGE V in hand as proposed.
2. It is essential that KING GEORGE V should be clear of the dockyard by 4/9 in order that DUKE OF YORK shall not be delayed.
(A.C.N.S. H., 1323A/16).

Convoy W.P.19. HAAKON HAUAN, (Norwegian Tanker) aground.

Went aground on Shambles. Tug RESOLVE from Portsmouth and PILOT from Portland and 2 M/S towed her off, apparently undamaged. Entered Portland and will be sailed for Southampton tomorrow. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1531A/16, F.O.C. Portland 1533A/16, 1707A/16, 2057A/16, 2331A/16).

M.L.214.

Has returned Immingham with starboard propeller fouled. (F.O. Humber, 1645A/16).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X.141.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your convoy H.X.151. (?H.X.141)
(C. in C. W.A., 1432A/16 to Vice-Adm. B Curtis).

W.S.10 X.

Sailed WHITEHALL, WITCH escorting Liverpool Section W.S.10 X. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1635A/16 to Admty Etc).

Convoy Cycles.

A.M. 1400A/15. Hoped to concur in C. in C. W.A.'s 1544A/15 within next few days. Subject to this concurrence, C.O.A.C. Halifax is requested to sail H.X. Convoys with ships of minimum speed of 10 knots commencing with H.X. 147. V.A.C.N.A. is requested to sail H.G. 71 as proposed by C. in C. W.A. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1704A/16 to C. in C. W.A., V.A.C.N.A., C.O.A.C., Halifax).

/My 1543A/15.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy Cycles. Contd.

My 1543A/15 (Part 1 of 1544A/15) Intend O.G.72 sail on 19/8 instead of on 28/8 on account of delay of ships already loaded. Propose H.G.71 sail on 18/8 as already arranged and there after every 15 days. To enable escorts to meet S.L.84 propose O.G. 73 sail on 29/8. Propose that O.G. 74 sail on 12/9 and there after every 15 days. (C. in C. W.A., 1915A/16 to Admty F.O.C.N.A.) Concur (D.T.D., 0538A/17).

Indship Tables.

Pass to N.C.S.O.'s. My 2122B/4, British merchant ships holding Indship Tables should now use them in all areas, except Areas 2, 3 and 4, if necessary to communicate with Naval Authorities. (D.T.D., 2005A/16 to A.I.G. 26, 19).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Trawlers and M/L's.

SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE, ARRAN, 17th M.L. Flotillas 261 242 256 263 265 266 272 274 (route) E.T.A. Bathurst 0900Z plus 1/23. Two telegraphists borne each trawler. Your 2121N/14 I have only just heard that KOS 7 and KOS 9 did not sail from England. (F.O.C.N.A., 0720A/16 to C. in C. S.A).

French Shipping.

Passings 15/8. French Westward MEDIE 2ND in ballast. Eastward CHENONCEAUX AUVERGNE both full, PORT-DE-BOU in ballast. (V.A.C.N.A. 0917/16 to Admty.)

0.23.

S.O. Subs. Malta 1610B/14. Return by reverse of outward route. At your discretion report P.C. and S. during night of 18/8. (F.O.C.N.A. 0938A/16 to 0.23).

M.L. 261.

Defect. Suggest ML's be modified before leaving U.K. (C.S. Gib., 1127A/16 to Admty.)

0.24. M/V and S/V sunk.

Netherlands S/M. 0.24 patrolling Gulf of Genoa thence passing West of Elba proceeded coastwise to Cape Circeo. Little traffic seen. 0.24 sank fully laden southbound 5000 ton ship by torpedo in 041° 47' 012° 05' and 1000 ton sailing vessel by gunfire in 041° 23' 012° 27'. (F.O.C.N.A., 1136A/16 to C. in C. Med.)

CAVINA.

My 2204A/15. (Not to Admty.) and Admty. 2304A/14. CAVINA will arrive Funchal about 0800/19. Request permission for visit and that she be supplied with 550 tons of water on arrival. (F.O.C.N.A. 1548/16 to N.A. Lisbon, N.C.S.O. Funchal). My 1548A/16. Departure CAVINA for Funchal for water thence J.Z.1 (route). JONQUIL, CORBOPSIS escort till position (d) then part company to R/V with CARDIUM. (F.O.C.N.A. 2202A/16 to Admty. S.O.W.P).

Force H.

Arrival 0930 S.O. Force "H" in NELSON VIMY; 1210, WILD SWAN ex H.G. 70; 1610, HERMIONE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632A/16 to Admty.)

ALBI (French)

My 1351/1. All crew of ALBI except 2 officers have joined Free French. French N.A. should be informed merely that crew is safe and well and are at liberty to send news to their families in France. (Head of M. 2025A/16 to N.A. Madrid).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Enemy Minelaying.	At entrances to Takoradi harbours. Re defensive measures. (G.O.C., West Africa, to W.O., 0660/16) See Lion Copy.
PRIMULA defect.	My 0853/10/8. Further heated bearing developed during sea trials of PRIMULA investigations show that abrasive material had been placed into lubrication system. Completion date ex-trials now 19/8. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0818Z/16 to Admty.)
ADVANCE Finnish.	Sailed from Santos for Rio de Janeiro p.m./15. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1050N/16 to Admty.)
CIRCASSIA.	C. in C. America & West Indies' 1626/6 (N.T. in W.R). From position (D) proceed direct to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1257N/16 to CIRCASSIA).
Enemy Ships in Brazil.	Ambassador has had assurance of M. F.A. that in future no enemy refugee ships will be permitted to sail from Brazilian ports. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1541Z/16 to S.O.I's Montevideo etc.) Lists of such ships in Brazil. (D.S. 712, 17/8
PRETORIA CASTLE.	Proceed to patrol in I 33 B. (C. in C. S.A., 1739N/16).
Dispositions	Weekly State 16/8. (C. in C. S.A., 1939N/16.) See Lion Copy.

Mediterranean.

M/V.	One merchant vessel, bearing 230° distant 10 miles, approx course 360°. My position 37° 10' N. 36° 04' E. (A/C "Q", 0730/16 to Hal Far).
French Convoy.	O.U. 63 29 (6) No. 4-5-24 passes Messina Northbound 1000/20 and are not to be attacked. (S.O.S. Malta 1015B/16 to URSULA). Vichy coastal convoy A, 3 ships westbound 12 knots, passed 180° Cape Gata 30' at 06000/17 and 180° Gavdo 10' at 19000/18. Convoy B, 3 ships eastbound 11 knots passed 180° (corrupt group) G.10 at 09000/18 and 180°. Cape Gata 30' at 01000/20. Do not molest. (Capt. S.1, 1515/16 to NEREUS, TORBAY)

/UTMOST.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

UTMOST. Intend sailing UTMOST P.M./19 for area M, 037° 36' 016° 16' - 310° - 80 - 120. (S.O. (S) Malta, 1120B/16 to Capt. S.1.)

Operation "Guillotine". Following is a repetition of my 1405/15: Amend my 1036 (N.T. in W.R) escort Serial S.22, 23 and 24 will sail 16th, 18th and 21st/8. Escort Serial 22, FLAMINGO, 23 PARRAMATTA, 24 FLAMINGO. PARRAMATTA and FLAMINGO to Alexandria on completion of their last serial. (Ends); (C. in C. Med. 1157/16 to all concerned in "Guillotine").

Minesweeping. Re new material. (D.D.O.D. (M) 1205A/16 to C. in C Med.) See Lion Copy.

KEPHALONIA sunk. KEPHALONIA foundered on 13/8 in 31° 37' N. 29° 24' E. All books inweighted and eyeletted bags sank with ship in 33 fathoms. (R.A. Alexandria, 1546/16 to Admty.)

Malta Raids. CSR Malta to 1600/ Night 15-16/8 4 raids. Civilian casualties no other damage. Night 15/16, 9 Wellingtons attacked Catania port, dropping G.P. and incendiaries north of Central Mole and port railway station, fire later with explosion probably oil tanks. (H.Q. Malta 1600/16).

URGE OSIRIS. URGE reports east and westbound Vichy convoys sighted south of Messina at expected time. Enemy light surface patrol sighted off Augusta and south of Messina. URGE returned due to engine defect which could not be made good at sea. OSIRIS sighted U-boat in 035° 36' 015° 39' at 0200/14. Requires docking and starboard engine clutch defective. Machinery repairs at least 8 days. (S.O. (S) Malta, 1707B/16 to Capt. S.1).

KANDAHAR bombed. Following received. Addressed: Alexandria W/T from KANDAHAR. Help Position 31.38 N., 26.28 E., (Nore W/T 17200/16 to Whitehall W/T) KANDAHAR from (M.S.G ? ?) Fighters despatched to your assistance. (Nore W/T 1744/16 to Whitehall W/T).

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Situation report 119.

BARHAM has arrived at Alexandria.
(ii) Western Desert. Scale of enemy air attack on Mersa Tobruk has increased with dive bombing and minelaying raids. Supplies continue by two destroyers running nightly as well as a lighter and schooner.
(iii) Two Greek merchant ships AGHIOS NICOLAOS VARVARA have now reached Famagusta from Istanbul.
(C. in C. Med., 23400/16 to Admty.)

East Indies.

ORONSAY, R.N. personnel.

Your 0704Z/12/8, my 1305/12/8 Admty 1921/12/8 D. S.T. 0055/13/8. In view of adjustments of dates for arrival and departure of personnel ships Suez, now proposed that R.N. draft for U.K. should embark ex Suez about 23/8 in ORONSAY. Request concurrence.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1150/16 to C. in C. E.I).

W.S.9BX.

HECTOR arrived with W.S.9.B.X. (S.O.I. Bombay 12552/16 to Admty. etc.)

Raiders.

My 1825/12 and your 1426Z/15. Prisoner from Raider F (33) now states that he believes Raiders in Indian Ocean have orders not to send prizes home but either to Crozet or Kerguelen Islands. Prizes to be hidden in Fjords which can only be entered at high water. Ships can only be seen from air. Prize Crews have orders to establish observation and W/T posts ashore and on approach of British Warships to scuttle prizes. This to be done by electrical cable from shore. Raider No. 36 stated to be Hansa Vessel similar to 33 and 16 and possibly at present in Indian Ocean. All above graded B.3.
(D.D.I.C. 1646A/16 to C. in C. E.I.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

SPREEWALD. (German).

My 0501/14 SPREEWALD still present, deeply laden. (Capt. O.S., Singapore, 01562/16 to Admty. etc.)

Malaya Convoys.

Ultimate force for Malaya now under consideration in light of manpower problem. Size and composition of Convoys will depend on decision reached. (W.O. 0445/16 to G.O.C. Malaya).

America and West Indies.

NORDERNEY (intercepted by DESPATCH 15/8).

My 2037Z/15 (N.T. in W.D) Regret impossible to save NORDERNEY. Intend proceeding Trinidad to land 38 prisoners and complete with oil. Have ordered Oiler BISHOPDALE to comply with your 0952Q/12. (S.O., West Indies Force, 0012Z/16 to C. in C. A.W.I).
NORDERNEY sunk by gunfire. (PRETORIA CASTLE 0950Z/16 to DESPATCH).

INDOCHINOIS.

Rescue tug PRUDENT sailed at 0935Z/16 to assistance s.s. INDOCHINOIS aground in Straits of Belle Isle. (C.C.N.F. 0936Z/16 to Admty.)

Vichy Ships.

Policy re interception. (C. in C. A.W.I., 10290/16 to A.W.I. Stn.) See Lion Copy.

MONTCALM and French M/V's.

Your 2122/15. French Cruiser MONTCALM was reported in MEDAL 35 graded B.O. as having left Casablanca on 30/7 for Dakar and/or Saigon, her arrival Dakar on 4/8 graded A.O. 611 reported in MEDAL 38. Navy Dept. has no further news MONTCALM but have asked Dakar if ship is still in port and Casablanca to confirm her final destination. Navy Dept. believe merchantmen mentioned are at Tamatave, U.S. Consul has been asked to confirm. (B.A.D. Washington, 1233R/16 to Admty.)

/Whale.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.-Contd.

Whale Catchers. Admty. 1716/11/6. 6 Norwegian catchers on passage to Durban, ultimate destination 2 each to Karachi, Bombay and Cochin for L.L. conversions (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1327Z/16) See Lion Copy.

Corvettes. Admty. 1349A/14, first three corvettes should be sailed as additional escorts for first convenient H.X. convoy. Report names of corvettes and convoy. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1342Z/16 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

BEARN. On 14/8 French Aircraft Carrier BEARN anchored in Martinique. Information sent C.N.S. Ottawa. (ALUSNA 1525/16 to Admty.)

Pacific Routeing. Following tentatively agreed with U.S. as basis for Pacific routeing plan under A.B.C. conditions. (B.A.D. Washington 1555R/16 to Admty. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) See Lion Copy.

S.H.X. Convoys. Your 2217Z/15. (Re abolition of S.H.X. Convoys) Concur. (D.T.D. 1705/16 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

H.X. 145. Sailing telegram (contains names of 81 ships). (S.C.N.O. Halifax 1826Z/16).

BERA suspicious. Master SAMARIA on arrival Halifax reports Swedish oil tanker BERA was sighted on port beam 6 miles, painted white with Swedish colours bow and amidships. Was in very light trim. BERA endeavoured to close but SAMARIA took immediate avoiding action and drew away, BERA then steered 150° apparently for Monatpassaya. Sighting took place 13/8, 19.16 N., 68. 10 W. Master's definite opinion ship's actions were very suspicious.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1855Z/16 to Admty.).

LE TRIOMPHANT Arrived and entered Canal 1400 G.M.T.
(N.C.S.O. Colon 1905/16 to Admty.)

/Panama.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 16.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

Panama Canal.	Your 2156Q/11. Considerable legal difficulties to be overcome if Masters leave their ships whilst in transit through Canal, would not arise if Chief Officer could be sent to obtain routeing instructions from N.C.S.O. Alternatively can some arrangement be made to enable Master to receive route instructions on board his ship thus avoiding present delay? (A.C.N.S. (T) 1908A/16 to C. in C. A.W.I).
Task Group 2. 5.	Prospective movements. (ALUSNA, 2009/16 to Admty.)
GOS 8. GOS 9.	Norwegian Naval vessels GOS 8 and GOS (ex whale catchers sailed Halifax today 16/8 with H.X. 145 destination Greenock. Vessels fitted with asdics, 4 inch guns and light A/A weapons. Request Norwegian C. in C. be informed. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 2021Z/16 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

LE TRIOMPHANT.	N.Z.N.B's 1018/14 and B.A.D. Washington's 2127R/14. Anticipated F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT will remain at Tahiti for about 1 month. Later movements not decided. As no arrangements for an oiler to complete tanks at Papeete, appreciated if HAURAKI could carry 450 tons of oil fuel there. (4th S.L., 1226A/16 to N.Z.N.B., B.A.D).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

16.8.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN (torpedoed 29/7). Permission received from Portuguese Authority for 21 Military Survivors SHAHRISTAN now at Ponta Delgada to leave island provided they do not travel in warship or transport. Request instructions where they are to be sent. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1215/16 to Admty.) N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro's 1131/15/8 is passed to you. SHAHRISTAN's message was not heard at Freetown. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1726N/16 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

2046Z/15. By D/F at 2046Z/15. Position of U-boat was 48° N. - 49° N. 14° - 15° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 0104A/16).

0318Z. By D/F at 0318Z/16, position of Italian U-Boat, approx. 45° 30' N. 2° 00' W. (D.D.I.C. 0527A/16 to PARTHIAN SEALION SOKOL etc.).

Sighted by Neutrals. Submarines not British or Allied have been sighted in following positions by Neutral Masters. (A)0001/9/7, 41' 03 N. 03' 32 E., hailed in French. (B) 3/8, 40 miles south of Genoa patrolling. (S.O.I. Gib., 1048A/16 to C. in C. Med. etc)

P.M./13 2 submarines sighted in approx. position 32. 42 N. 35.50 W. P.M./13. (F.O.C.N.A. 1324A/16 to CORINTHIAN).
Request information on which your 1324A/16 is based. (D.O.D. (F) 2141A/16 to F.O.C.N.A).
My 1324A/16 was based on B.A.D. Washington's 1727R/15 which was passed to you as Gibraltar series no. 35/866. (F.O.C.N.A. 2358A/16 to Admty.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1450A/16).

1819 G.M.T. Bearings at 1819 G.M.T. of Italian U/Boat 14 L. (D.D.I.C. 2004A/16 to F.O.C.N.A).

Submarines attacked.

6/8
13/8. Daily summary Ops. 202 Squadron. Ref. my A. 729/7/8. Y sources report this U-boat not yet returned to base. 38 days out. Nothing heard since attack. Ref. my A.791, 13/8 first U-boat was Italian, still being called unsuccessfully by base. Y sources unable identify second. (200 Group 1838/16 to Air Ministry, amended 1730/17).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

17.8.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

An M/S listening Patrol will commence operating on the East Coast Channel between Aldeburgh and No.5. Buoy as from the night 20/21 August.

Cape Gris Nez batteries fired 8 rounds shortly before midnight when Convoy C.W. 46 was between Dover and South Foreland. No naval damage or casualties are reported.

TIGRIS, on passage to Murmansk sank by torpedo a westbound merchant vessel at 0815C today in 70° 59' N., 26° 45' E.

British Air Operations

9 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Rotterdam docks last night and 8 Ostend docks.

Enemy Air Operations

SS KINDERSLEY in Convoy E.C. 61 was bombed and damaged late this evening off Blyth.

MOST SECRET

War Diary

17.8.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining

Mines were detonated today off the Tyne and Mersey.

Thames Estuary.

There was slight air activity over the Thames Estuary last night. One mine was exploded at 2358/16.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected off the North Foreland.

Mediterranean

Operations by Naval Aircraft.

5 Naval Swordfish from Malta last night attacked Catania harbour with excellent results causing a widespread fire and several large explosions. Damage to shipping must have been considerable.

This evening 7 Swordfish attacked a southbound convoy of 5 merchant ships and one tanker escorted by 6 destroyers, 20 miles West of Lampione. One 8000 ton ship was sunk, one of 9000 tons was hit by torpedo and was subsequently beached off Lampedusa where it was bombed and set on fire by Blenheims on 18/8, and the tanker, of 6000 tons was hit by a torpedo and set on fire. This tanker was still on fire on 22/8. A 700 ton schooner, seen on its side alongside was probably hit on 18/8 by near miss
3 Hurricanes today attacked the seaplane base at Catania.

Libya and Western Desert.

Mersa Matruh port is closed consequent on mine-laying raid last night. Two Yugoslav M.T.B's have proceeded there for Western desert operations.

Determined dive bombing attacks were made on Tobruk during daylight today. Some lighters were sunk, but no damage was caused to lighters or schooners unloading.

/The Russian ....

MOST SECRET

War Diary

17.8.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

The Russian High Command reported that Nikolaiev was evacuated today and the dockyards blown up.

East Indies

Operation "Ration" ("Kedgeree")

Five Vichy French ships, VILLE D'ORAN, LINOIS, DALNY, LIPARI and SAGITTAIRE are reported to have left Tamatave on 12/8 on homeward voyage, escorted by sloops and tanker LOT. It is possible that the French cruiser MONTCALM last reported at Dakar about 6/8 will join the convoy later and submarines may be in company. AUSTRALIA and HAWKINS, the latter from Convoy SW. 8 which is to proceed unescorted to Durban, are to intercept the convoy. Any A/S vessels available in Cape ports are to assist, and air cooperation has been asked for.

U-Boat Campaign

Corvette ALBERNI claims to have destroyed a U-Boat sighted on the surface in foggy weather, at 0500Z today in 55° 25' N., 44° 5' W. the Convoy was not attacked.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.41.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Recognition procedure.

Your 1450B/8. To keep recognition procedure as simple as possible for benefit of small vessels alternative 2 is preferred.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1119/17 to Adty.)

Biscay Fishing Ships.

While offensive action against fishing ships in Bay of Biscay should as a rule never be initiated by submarines as directed in S.W.M.18, French sail fishing ships are never to be attacked within following areas.
Bound west by longitude 7° W., on the north by latitude 49° N.,on the south by latitude 047° 50' N., and on the east by the French coastline from lat., 047° 50'N., to lat.,E Ushant thence Ushant then by line going due north from Ushant to lat., 49° N.
This message is S.M.X.11.
(F.O.S. 1238A/17 to S/M's Area A.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Force A.

Am constantly being asked about the movements of Force A but have no information.
Soviet Naval Authorities today particularly asked whether any fuel or provisions are required at Murmansk.
(Admiral Miles, Moscow 12310/17.)

Defence of U.K.

Scapa A/A Defences.

Your 1642/13. Assume this and previous incidents are being investigated by Dr. Bower of Air Ministry Operational Intelligence at Kirkwall,and you will report measures taken or action proposed to improve defences.
(A.C.N.S.H 1445A/17 to A.C.O.S.)

Movements.

CURACOA PENELOPE.

Departure:- 0700 CURACOA. 0800 PENELOPE.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0800/17.)

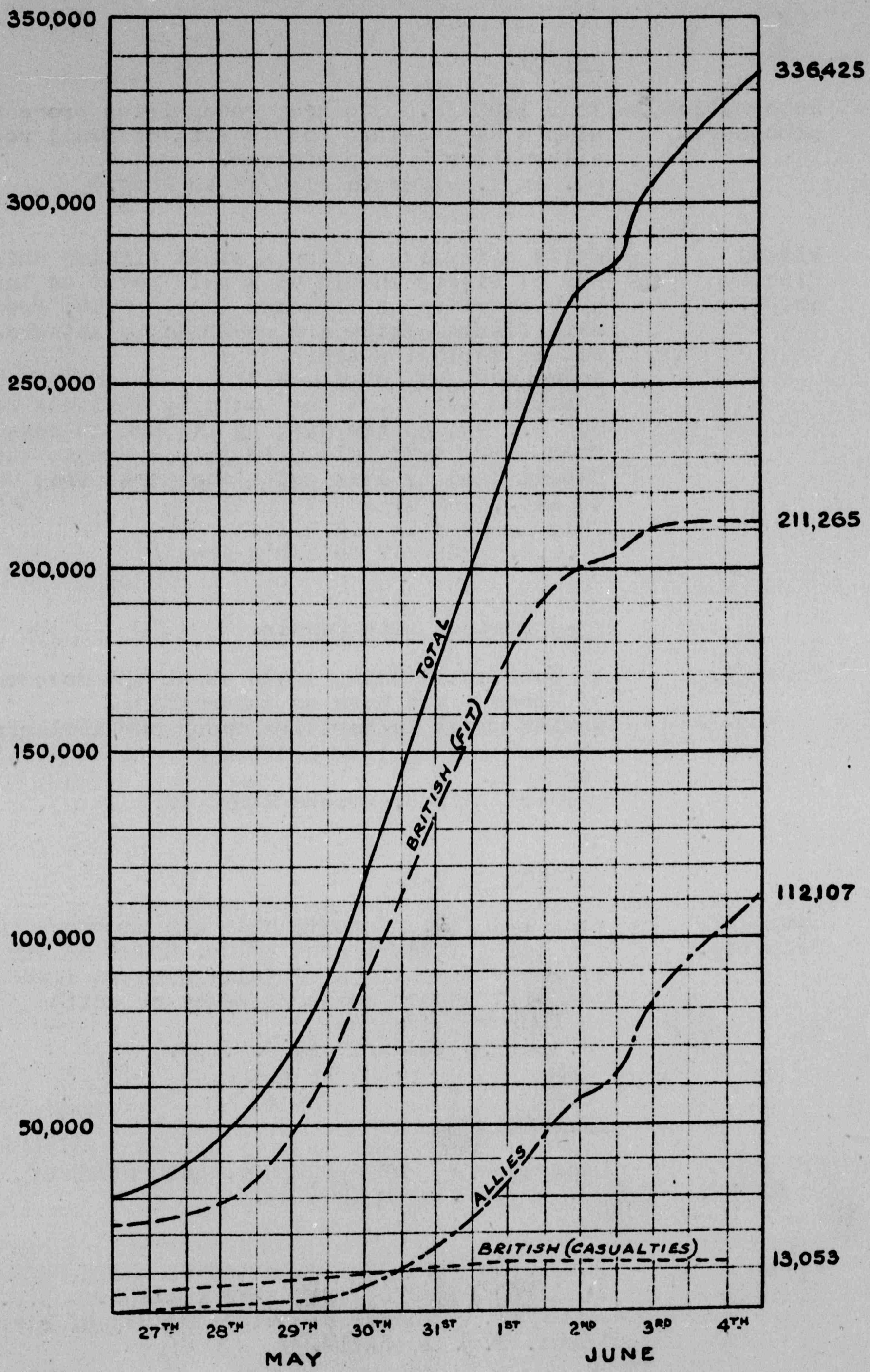
TUNA.

Intend to sail TUNA escorted by WHITE BEAR at 1000A/20 for 270° Wolf Rock 3 miles. E.T.A. 2300A/21. Thence to patrol in Bay of Biscay.
(Capt. S.3. 1035A/17.)

/P.34.....

WITHDRAWAL FROM FLANDERS.

Numbers counted in to trains in British Ports.



I.S.P.S. 5/6/40

War Diary. 17.8.41. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

P.34. (1) Intend to sail P.34 escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1700A/21 for 290° Bishop Rock 5 miles. E.T.A. 2300A/23. Route thence. Will enter N.A. Station at 0200A/27.
(Capt. S.3. 1135A/17.)

MARON
HILARY
CORINTHIAN. Programme up to November 1941.
(S.O. Western Patrol 1150A/17.)
See Lion Copy.

CONQUEROR. Intend to sail CONQUEROR at noon/20 to Portsmouth for onward routeing to Tyne. E.T.A.1445/20. Request air protection be arranged.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1735A/17 to C. in C. Portsmouth

H.50. During night you may meet LA CAPRICIEUSE escorting S/M H.50.
(C. in C.W.A.1757A/17 to HORNPIPE and 1801A/17 to KEPPEL.)

HEYTHROP. Anticipate HEYTHROP will be ready to leave U.K., about 20/8 for Suez.
2. C. in C.W.A., is requested to arrange for her to fuel at Londonderry and join O.G.72.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1957A/17.)

CASTLETON.
CHARLESTON. Confirm that CHARLESTON is in company.
(C. in C.W.A., 2344A/17 to CASTLETON.)

Operations.

East Coast Listening Patrol. My 25/331J/41 of 2nd Jan/41. M/S Listening patrol will commence operating on the East Coast Channel between Aldeburgh and No.5 Buoy as from night 20/21. Two Trawlers will be stationed during dark hours one mile to the eastward of each of the following buoys:-
54 C. 54E. 54 F. and 5.
(C. in C. Nore 1048A/17.)

"Dervish". Your 1338A/16. In order to avoid amended route of H.X.143 convoy DERVISH should be ordered to alter course forthwith to 63° 00' N., 21° 00'W., omitting position 62° 00' N., 14° 00' W.
(D.O.D.(H)1232A/17 to A.C.O.S.)

/Trawlers....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.8.41.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations Contd.

Trawlers for Force A.

4 Trawlers from the 10th and 15th A/S Groups are required for service with Force A and are to be ready to sail with oiler OLIGARCH from Hvalfjord p.m./18. C. in C. H.F., is requested to issue further instructions.
(A.C.N.S.H. 2101A/17.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

P.R.U. of Stavanger and Kristiansand now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1030/17.)
H.Q.C.C. have been asked to arrange A/S Air Search of area 60 miles square N.W. of Cape Wrath which will probably entail co-operation between 15 and 18 Groups. Search to be commenced as soon as possible and maintained until 0800 tomorrow.
(A.C.N.S.H.1209A/17.)

Bombing Operations.

On night 16/17 nine A/C bombed the docks at Rotterdam and 8 A/C bombed the docks at Ostend, bursts being seen at both places. One A/C also bombed Flushing Docks and one the Docks at Terneuzen. (H.Q.B.C. 1615/17.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C.61. A/C destroyed on 16/8 SUNTRAP damaged.

My 2145/16. Aircraft was destroyed by combined fire of ships and escort, finally striking balloon wire of steamship NEPHRITE and seen to crash. Slight damage to engine and hull of steamship SUNTRAP from near miss but she is able to proceed. Two feet missing from mast of NEPHRITE.
(VALOROUS 0806A/17.)

Lowestoft attack of 16/8. NESS POINT. (Tug) sunk in dock. Buildings damaged.

Requisitioned tug NESS POINT sunk in Waveney Dock by air attack at 2205A/16. Requires salvage.
(N.O.I.C.Lowestoft 1130A/17.)
(C.S.Officer, Lowestoft 1330A/17.)
Damage by enemy action 2215/16 at Herring Basin, Lowestoft. Base canteen 95% demolished, pier seriously damaged, base offices partly damaged, total estimated cost £8500. Also slight damage Naval Base main office, estimated cost £20.
Casualties 3 injured.
(C.E.Yarmouth 1330A/17.)

/Convoy .....

War Diary. 17.8.41. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. Contd.

Convoy W.N.Odd. Fighters are being sent. (Rosyth W/T 1526/17.)

Enemy A/C. Following received from 14 Group Intelligence. Information has been received that A/C of 1 K.G.26 are now active from Aalborg probably on shipping operations between Forth and Flamborough Head, possibly further North. (N.L.O. 2300/17 to A.C.O.S.)

Mining.

Russian minefields. S.B.N.O. Murmansk 12410/17. See Operations Volume.

Tyne. Detonated 1 Red Ground magnetic mine at 1129 in 059° North Tier Light Tyne 29 cables. (P.M.S.O., North Shields 1500/17.)

Thames Estuary. A mine exploded near North end of East Barrow Shoal at 2358. Aircraft was in vicinity at time. (S.O.T.L.D.F., Sheerness 1536/17.)

Liverpool. At 1435/17 one Red Mine detonated by Sweeper in 265° Bar Light Vessel 7 miles. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1605/17.)

Casualties & Defects.

FAULKNOR. E.T.A. Needles 0530/18. Starboard shaft is out of action. (FAULKNOR 0958A/17.)

Dumb Barge off Kinnaird Head. Steamship ARDENZA reports losing dumb-barge in 57° 46' N., 1° 49' W., at 0100/17. (N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 1156/17.)

PICOTEE. Investigation shows A pattern depth charge was dropped by PICOTEE on starboard quarter of convoy about 0145Z/12. What appeared to be steam or smoke was then seen coming up astern Corvette which was steaming away from convoy at fair speed. 5 minutes later Corvette being out of sight dull thud was heard in her direction. At 0200 Submarine was definitely seen by Captain and 2 other officers of one of the convoys coming from direction of Corvette and 2 rockets were fired. Submarine was black and was about ¼ mile off.

/Submarine....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.41.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

PICOTEE Contd.

Submarine immediately altered course away and disappeared at high speed. Position 0200 062° 16' N., 018° 15' W. This information has only just been received by me.
(A.C.I.C. 1347/17.)
Your 2206A/16. Nothing further seen since N/269 report at 0800. Area not completely covered owing to bad weather.
(A.C.I.C. 1920/17 to C. in C.W.A.)
Your 1026/13. Request you ascertain from Masters of the Merchant Ships ex O.N.4 any information that they have regarding movements of PICOTEE and when she was last seen . Request you will report results by signal and confirm 8 ships and SALVONIA arrived with AYRSHIRE.
(C. in C.W.A.1930A/17 to A.C.I.C.)
On arrival of AYRSHIRE request you will fully investigate and report the circumstances attending the loss of touch with and subsequent disappearance of PICOTEE on night of the 11/12 August.
Investigation is to include whether any R/T or other signals were passed between these ships.
(C. in C.W.A. 2140A/17 to F.O.I.C.Greenock.)

RHONE.

My 1218/17. RHONE put back. Damage in collisio
(N.C.S.O.Milford Haven 1544/17.)

Hartlepool.

Port of Hartlepool open in accordance with restrictions outlined in my 1300/9.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1645/17.)

COVERLEY damaged.

Whilst exercising action stations in harbour this forenoon, QUADRILLE fired port and starboard throwers whilst securing to buoy alongside COVERLEY. Both depth charges detonated under water. No damage to QUADRILLE. Following damage to COVERLEY but she can steam 7 knots. No casualties.
(WESTERN ISLES 1752A/17.)

BOADICEA.

Capt. (D) Greenock's 1106A/17th. Request asistance in making good class A defects. Details. (BOADICEA 1901A/17 to Capt.D.Liverpool.)

GLEN STRATHALLAN. (Collision 11/8.)

Sailed tug AMSTERDAM to assist GLEN STRATHALLAN in 053° 30' N., 004° 05'W.
(N.O.I.C.Holyhead 2020/17.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy Cycles. — Your 1915A/16. Concur.
(D.T.D.0536A/17 to C. in C.W.A.)

S.L.82. — Arrived safely, Master of KING STEPHEN as Commodore, to British, 1 neutral, 5 Allied Ships. Cargoes. (D.S.713, 18/8.)

W.S.8C. — Clyde arrival convoy W.S.8.C. Codeword EXPERT.
(N.O.I.C.GREENOCK, 1204A/17 to Admty., etc.)
Conform with Adty. 1232A/17.
(A.C.O.S. 1444A/17 to ELECTRA.)

D.S.10. — LEOPOLDVILLE and ROYAL ULSTERMAN will form Convoy D.S.10 leaving Clyde p.m./21.
(D.O.D.(H) 1749A/17 to C. in C.W.A., etc.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Survivors in Portuguese Trawler.

Portuguese Trawler MARIA LEONSPIE (? MARIA LEONOR) off Cape Juby 0900/17 proceeding Lisbon 10 knots has on board 14 British survivors, one of whom wounded, and very short of provisions, but does not wish proceed to a French port as survivors would be interned. Future positions will be reported. (N.A. Lisbon 1210/17 to F.O.C.N.A. amended 1526/18).
(Repeating substance of 1210/17). Endeavour to intercept and remove 3 British survivors and wounded. Give trawler provisions if you have to spare. (F.O.C.N.A. 2007A/17 to SOUTHERN GEM, JANETHA IV).

CLYDE, SEVERN.

Intend to sail CLYDE p.m./18 for A/S patrol on line Cape St.Vincent to Madeira thence to Azores. CLYDE will leave patrol to reach Gibraltar 11/9. Intend to sail SEVERN p.m./20 for A/S patrol on Cape St.Vincent Madeira Line duration of patrol about 16 days.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1210A/17 to Admty.).

AVON VALE, ERIDGE.

Admty.1239B/9 para.(iii). Intend sailing AVON VALE and ERIDGE a.m./18 for Freetown.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1304A/17 to C.in C., S.A.).

French Ships.

Gibraltar 17/8 0837 - French Hospital Ship CANADA, Westbound. 1305 - Minesweeper COMMANDANT RIVIERE, S/M LE CONQUERANT, Westbound.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1425A/17 to Admty. etc).

KOS 7, KOS 9.

Regret cancellation of sailing of KOS 7 and KOS 9 was not passed to you.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1827A/17 to F.O.C.N.A., C.in C.,S.A).

French Convoys.

Passing Gibraltar 15/8. (D.O.R. 17/8).

French Convoy.

1815 French L'AJACCIENNE escorting BRESTOIS AGEN CAP BLANC ROUBASIEN all full eastbound.
(S.O.I., Gibraltar 2055/17 to Admty.).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Operation "Ration", convoy from Tamatave.

S.O.I. Capetown's 0943Z/15 and my 0056A/17 (see East Indies). Carry out operation "Ration" forthwith (A.M. 1407/10/1 refers) against convoy of Vichy French ships which left Tamatave 1230Z/12 using AUSTRALIA. Possible that MONTCALM may have joined convoy and submarines may also be in company with convoy. If suitable A/S vessels are available in Cape Ports they are to assist in the operation. Air co-operation is to be asked for. Operation should be abandoned if interception has not been effected East of 15° East.
(V.C.N.S. D135A/17 to C.in C., S.A.).

A/S Vessels, Air R/C.

Admty. 0135/17. What A/S vessels are likely to be available giving speed endurance and present position. To what depth from coast can air R/C be carried out. Air co-operation may be required (a) to locate Vichy ships, (b) to cover operation of bringing them in if intercepted.
(C.in C., S.A. 0931N/17 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).
Your 0931N/17/8. Only A/S vessels available are S.D.F. Whalers 1 at Durban, 5 at Capetown. Of these three at Capetown and one Durban are capable of maintaining 12 knots remainder not more than 10 knots. Endurance not less than 2000 miles. These vessels constitute sole A/S protection of Union ports. Air R/C - normally 200 miles with Avro Ansons but I am already negotiating with C.G.S. Pretoria, for loan of a limited number of Glen Martins for this operation. These machines are here awaiting tests and then delivery up north. They operate to depth of 500 miles with say 300 miles to play with. I am not very certain that they will be made available.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1613Z/17, to ? C.in C.,S.A).

AUSTRALIA movements.

Admty. 0135/17. Request probable position AUSTRALIA and arrival Durban, presume will want fuel. Your 0450/17 Admty. messages 2228/13 and 1526/14 not held, to what do they refer? Does AUSTRALIA hold instructions for "Ration" (Admty. 1407/10/1) ?
(C.in C., S.A. 1013N/17 to C.in C., E.I.).
See 1703/17.

Instructions to AUSTRALIA. (C.in C., S.A. 1123N/17 to AUSTRALIA). See Lion Copy.

COMMANDANT DUBOC /

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (Contd.)

COMMANDANT DUBOC. ("Ration")

Your 0135/17 and my 1123/17. French sloop minesweeper COMMANDANT DUBOC now at Simonstown would be very useful. Is there any objection to using her? (C.in C., S.A. 1213N/17 to Admty.).
Your 1213N/17. Regretted COMMANDANT DUBOC may not be used for this operation.
(V.C.N.S. 1825A/17 to C.in C., S.A.).
Your 1213/17. COMMANDANT DUBOC is not fitted with asdics. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1834B/17 to C.in C., S.A.).

MONTCALM.

Your 1013N/17. A.M.2228/13 is cancelled. A.M. 1526/14 contains the substance of A.M.1336A/13 addressed to you. French cruiser MONTCALM was reported (B.O.) as having left Casablanca 30/7 for Dakar and/or Saigon. Reported (A.O.) having arrived Dakar 4/8.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1703A/17 to C.in C., S.A.).

"Ration" Instructions.

My 1123/17. Following are Admty. instructions for Operation "Ration". (C.in C., S.A. 1919N/17 to AUSTRALIA). See Lion Copy.

Whalers and Air R/C.

My 0931/17 and your 1613/17. Request you will sail if possible one 12 knot whaler and one 10 knot whaler independently from Durban to patrol about 038° 10' S. 032° 20' E. whalers to meet in position. Also 3 12-knot whalers from Capetown to patrol about 040° 00' S. 024° 10'E. to arrive A.M./21. AUSTRALIA to be informed vice Durban of means of communication with these. Also you arrange air R/C as thought (corrupt group) best to assist. Request you will direct operation locally as necessary, pass out information from R/C, and move A/S vessels to assist AUSTRALIA if required. My instructions as regards trawler patrol are initial movements only and may be altered as required in view of local knowledge or AUSTRALIA requirements.
(C.in C., S.A. 2041N/17 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

HAWKINS to be used.

A.M. 0135A/17. HAWKINS should be used to ensure success of this operation. Convoy S W 8 may proceed unescorted to Durban.
(V.C.N.S. 2234A/17 to C.in C., S.A., C.in C.,E.I).
Admty. 2234A/17. Information should be given to HAWKINS as indicated in my 1957/17 and my 1907/17 and all other relevant signals.
(C.in C., S.A. 2219N/17 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

My 1123/17 /

War Diary. 17.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

HAWKINS to be used. (Contd) — My 1123/17, 1919/17 and 2041/17 are being passed to you. HAWKINS will take part in this operation. (C.in C., S.A. 2315N/17 to HAWKINS).

Code "Kedgeree". — A.T.0135A/17 (not to AUSTRALIA and HAWKINS). Code word for this particular operation is "Kedgeree". (A.C.N.S.(F) 2241A/17 to C.in C., S.A.

CHESHIRE, CILICIA. — Your 1826A/15/8. (CHESHIRE to replace CILICIA in escort to U.K.). This will be arranged - (2) Concur. (C.in C., S.A. 2300N/17 to Admty.).

Mediterranean.

TARVISIO (Italian). — Angora broadcast on 16/8 stated permission given to proceed from Chanak to Black Sea, but vessel had not yet moved. (D.S. 713, 18/8).

Benghazi and Bardia bombed. — Night 15/16. 28 Wellingtons bombed Berka and Benina Aerodromes, also shipping in Benghazi Harbour. Bombs fell near tanker at Juliana Mole at Benghazi. 2 Blenheims 3 F.A.A. Albacores and 2 Wellingtons attacked s/m reported in Bardia Harbour with bombs and torpedo. One fire started near Mole. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1006/17).

U/B zigzag precaution. — U-boats have been located within 100 miles of Malta on a few occasions (? this) month. Drastic zigzagging should be employed however dark. (S.O.S. Malta 1053B/17 to TAKU, s/ms Malta Force).

OTUS, TAKU. — Instructions for arrival. (S.O.S. Malta 1057B/17 to OTUS, TAKU).

Mine-sweeping. — Alexandria Minesweeping Summary for week ending 16/8. No Minelaying Raids. No Mines swept. Three Mines from previous raid still in Flying Boat anchorage, Harbour otherwise believed clear. (R.A. Alexandria 1234C/17 to Admty.).

Enemy Convoy /

MOST SECRET.

War Diary. 17.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Enemy Convoy. Anticipate small escorted convoy leaving 037° 57' 023° 36' dusk tonight/17 for 124° midday (? zone time). (Capt. S.1. 17000/17 to THRASHER.)

THUNDERBOLT. Instructions. (Capt. S.1, 1755C/17, to THUNDERBOLT.)

Malta Raid. Night 16/17. Single raider dropped incendiaries near Hal Far. No damage.

Catania Syracuse attacked. Night 16/17 5 Swordfish attacked shipping Catania Harbour with excellent results. Whole of the harbour and railway sidings were lit up by fire as if by day. Damage to shipping which must have been considerable not yet ascertained. 3 Hurricanes attacked seaplanes Syracuse 17/8, 1 Cant Z 506 set on fire and 4 others severely damaged probably written-off. All aircraft returned safely.(H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1800/17.)

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 6 Enemy Destroyers and 6 Enemy Merchant Vessels 35.42 N., 11.42 E., 150°,9,1850. (A/C 8 H.S. of Z. Sqdn., 1910B/17, to Med. A/C.) (Repeating 1910B/17.) Aircraft will attack at dusk and dawn.
(S.O.S., Malta, 1920/B/17 to S/M's Malta Force.)
P.C. and S., of enemy, 6 destroyers and 6 merchant vessels 039 35° N.,11° E., 54, 155°,9,1850.
(A/C 35B Sqdn., 1938/7, to Med. Stn.)

UNIQUE P.32. P.33. Second convoy due Tripoli about noon/18. When passed P.33 return to Malta as in my 1144B/15. UNIQUE and P.32 proceed vicinity 033° 20' 013° 03' and 033° 17' 013° 14' respectively to intercept 3 large M/Ships 6 destroyers speed 17½ knots due Tripoli about noon/20.
(S.O.S., Malta, 2015/B/17, to UNIQUE P 32 P 33, Amended 1101B/18.)

UNBEATEN, enemy Convoy UNBEATEN sails p.m./18 to intercept fast convoy in 037° 05' 011° 50' p.m./20, returning to Malta for 24 hours before proceeding on full patrol in area N.
(S.O.S., Malta, 2133B/17 to Capt. S.1.)

Situation report 120. Vichy French Convoy 'A' left Beirut 2000/16. 2. Western Desert. Two Yugoslav M.T.B.s have proceeded Mersa Matruh for Western desert operations. Mersa Matruh Port closed due to minelaying raid night 16/17.
(C. in C. Med., 2327C/17 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

AUSTRALIA, Operation "Ration".	AUSTRALIA is to proceed to Durban at best speed. Further orders follow. (V.C.N.S., 0056A/17, to C. in C.E.I., C. in C.S.A.) See also S.Atlantic. W.D.Note:- AUSTRALIA left Aden 6/8. Arrived Mombasa 13/8, left Mombasa 1205 G.M.T./15, to examine certain islands. (C. in C.E.I., 1428Z/15.)
DORIS.	Overdue. Greek DORIS due Aden 11th, left Calcutta 24/7. (S.O.I., Colombo, 0530Z/17 to Admty.)
ORONSAY personnel.	Your 1305/12 and 1150/15. Escort will be available at Aden 26/8. Request you will route ORONSAY to Aden. (C. in C.E.I., 0816Z/17, to R.S.T.O. Egypt.)
EXETER.	Cancel my 1104/14, On relief by MAURITIUS proceed to Aden arriving A.M/25. (C. in C.E.I., 0830Z/17, to EXETER).

China.

FRANCOIS L.D. (French.)	Departed Saigon 15/8, cargo of rubber, vessel cleared for Kobe. (C.S.Singapore, 0241Z/17, to Admty.)
DUPLEIX.	Consul General Saigon telegram 172 to F.O. I do not intend intervening with Dutch to secure release of DUPLEIX especially as our policy has been to encourage them to intercept French shipping (see Admty. 2255/27/7.) (C. in C. China, 0533Z/17, to Admty.)
Fuel.	My 0901/1. It may become necessary for more ships to avoid (?North Pacific.) If so oil burners will require to bunker Auckland where present stocks are insufficient. Can arrangements be made for additional fuel (?oil based at) New Zealand of say 2500 tons monthly.(C. in C. China 0535Z/17 to Adty.,N.Z.N.B)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

MONT VISO (French.) — Intercepted letter dated 30/7 from C Solis, S/Maitre Pilote, Depot Des Equipages, Casablanca states writer expected to sail on 15/8 for Martinique. Another letter dated 29/7 states "French ship MONT VISO will sail Martinique in a few days."
(C. in C.A.W.I., 1609/17 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

TASK FORCE. — Future movements.
(D.O.D.(F) 1711A/17 to C. in C.A.W.I., etc.)

VILLE DE MAJUNGA. — Departure 17/8, Halifax 25/8.
(St. Thomas 2302/17 to M.of W.T.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Australian Minesweepers. — Your 1445Z/12. Concur.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1227A/17 to A.C.N.B.)

Tahiti, fuel for LE TRIOMPHANT. — My 1018M/14 and Admty., 1226A/16. Request HAURAKI take 450 tons oil fuel to Tahiti.
(Navy Office, Wellington, 1234M/17 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

HORN SHELL (torpedoed 27/7.)

My 1415Z/17. Master and 14 of crew of HORN SHELL landed here to-day 17/8 by CUYABA. Ship was attacked by submerged submarine which fired 4 torpedoes. Ship heeled rapidly and was last seen at daylight 27/7 floating bottom upward. Ship was zigzagging and sunk after she had been diverted from original route by W/T from Gibraltar. No one killed or injured but 3 boats containing 42 officers and men unaccounted for. S/M not identified and no communication held with same.
(N.C.S.O.Pernambuco, 1450Z/17 to Admty.)

SUD. (torpedoed 14/8.)

ALFERRAREDE called 17th landed Master and complete crew of 32 SUD which left Gibraltar 9th for Halifax. Master states vessel attacked by 2 S/M's torpedoed and gunfire 14/8 041° N.,017° 41' W., sank 1300 G.M.T. 1400 G.M.T., enemy aeroplane circled exchanging signals with S/M's. C.B. dumped in weighted bag. All ships' papers except wages cabinet destroyed by gunfire.
(R.O. Horta, 2322/17 to Admty.)
S.U.D. Yugoslav, 2589 tons, from Gibraltar to Halifax in ballast, had been in convoy H.G.70.
(D.S.713, 18/8.)

Submarines Reported.

General.

Keep good look out for U boats especially in area between 061° 30' N., and 059° N., and 029° W., and 032° W.
(A.C.I.C., 0127/17 to ASSINIBOINE, SAGUENAY.)

0922 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0922 G.M.T. enemy U-boat in 53° 30'N., 15° 30' W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1121A/17 to LEITH etc.)

14/8.

U.S. Naval Authorities report, two submarines were sighted by a Clipper at sunset 14/8. U/Boats were about ten miles apart, course W. Position 38°10' N., 36° 40' W. 1016/17.(ends.)
(D.D.I.C. 1133A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1411A/17.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

17.8.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C, 0753. Am over enemy S/M in 47.39N., 8.45W., enemy Submarine previously reported - periscope only sighted when first sighted was on course 270°. (A/C E 233/Sqdn., 0753/17 to 19 Group H.Q.) Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits. (A/C, E 233 Sqdn., 0751/17 to 19 Group.) (D.S.712, 17/8.)

By A/C 1050. Am over enemy S/M in 47°00' N., 8°31' W., S/M was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, Course 275°, speed 12 knots. (A/C 1050/17 to 19 Group H.Q.) Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Unsuccessful.(A/C 1100/17, to 19 Group H.Q.)

? By PICOTEE 12/8. Investigation shows A pattern depth charge was dropped by PICOTEE on starboard quarter of convoy about 0145Z/12. 5 minutes later, corvette being out of sight, dull thud was heard in her direction. (A.C.I.C., 1347/17 to C. in C.W.A.) See Casualties.

By ALBERNI. ALBERNI claims to have destroyed U-boat in 055° 25' N., 044° 05' W., at 0500Z/17. Convoy not attacked. Weather foggy. Visibility 1500 yards. U-boat sighted on the surface. (CANDYTUFT, 1635Z/17 to Admty.) (D.S.713.)

By A/C. At 1835/17, Beaufort A/C S/Z17, 47.40 N., 8.42W., 150' W.S.W., of Ushant, attack with 1 bomb which failed to explode. (D.S.713, 18/8.)

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Hartlepool was opened at 1333 to ships of 46 ft. beam and 21 ft. draft.

British Air Operations.

Bomber Command carried out a raid last night on Bremen and 2 on Wilhelmshaven.

Blenheims this evening sank 3 Trawlers off the Dutch coast.

O.G.71
H.G.70. An A/A sweep covering convoys O.G.71 and H.G.70 was flown and a special A/S escort was also provided for O.G.71 throughout the day and night.

Enemy Air Operations.

Bombs were dropped at Aberdeen and Peterhead tonight. No naval damage was caused.

E.C.61 Convoy E.C.61 was attacked again tonight, for the third night in succession, in 56° 59' N. 1° 56' W. No damage is reported.

O.G.71. Convoy O.G.71 was unsuccessfully attacked by 2 JU.88 at 1815 in 50° 28' N. 17° 28' W. This is the first instance for several months of aircraft other than F.W.200's attacking a convoy to the westward of Ireland.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

6 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands, 2 off the Great Belt, 1 off the Little Belt and one off Aalborg.

Thames Estuary.

QUORN received slight damage this morning from the explosion of a mine in the Thames Estuary. QUORN's S.A. gear was out of action at the time.

South Atlantic.

S.S.GASCON.

Vichy French S.S. GASCON at Lobito was reported bunkering today. CILICIA which left Freetown for Takoradi yesterday, and ALBATROSS at Simonstown have been ordered to intercept.

A ship resembling German Raider EIN spoke U.S. ships p.m. today in 30° S. 12° 35' E. and refused her name when asked.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert.

4 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli in the early hours of today. 5 Wellingtons from Malta attacked the port again from 2150 to 2234 today.

25 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night.

There were two air attacks on Tobruk today; no damage was caused.

Canal area.

S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area reports that the last mining raid on the Canal was on the morning of 8/7. All subsequent reports of mines are now considered false reports or exploded bombs. Sweeping in the Canal is still in progress over one reported mine, and over 2 remaining mines reported in Suez Bay.

America and West Indies.

GREENWICH is to relieve ~~FORTH~~ F as S/M depot ship at St. Johns, N.F.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Zone Time East of 26° W.

Cancel 274 AZ/1/5/41. Cancel 111 AK/1/5/41. (D.S.D. 1305A/18).

SOLBRITT (Prize).

Finnish SOLBRITT now at Kirkwall is to be sailed under Naval control to Glasgow for discharg -of seized cargo. On arrival she is to be handed into custody of Collector of Customs as representative of Admiralty Marshal. (D.T.D. 2106A/18).

Defence of U.K.

Scapa A/A Defences.

Your 1445A/17. Yes.
(A.C.O.S. 1242/18 to Admty.)

Movements.

CASTLETON.
CHARLESTOWN.

Your 2344A/17. Confirmed CHARLESTOWN is in company. (CASTLETON 0040A/18).

PRINCE OF WALES.

Scapa arrivals PRINCE OF WALES, TARTAR, PUNJABI, ESCAPADE, ECLIPSE and ORIBI. (A.C.O.S. 0827A/18).

PARTHIAN.

Intend following programme after arrival 19/8.
If no major defects, submarine to be sailed from Portsmouth P.M./29 for working up at Dartmouth.
C. Vessel to be ready to sail for Portsmouth, New Hampshire P.M. 1st. (Capt. S.5 0845A/18 to F.O.S).
S.5. 0845/18. Propose vessel proceeds on 1/9 south of Ireland on route to be indicated by C. in C. W.A. and C. in C., Plymouth, proceedin submerged by day to longitude 15° W. (F.O.S. 1447A/18).

CHEVREUIL.

F.S. CHEVREUIL should be sailed to join an O.S. Convoy and break off as convenient for Kingston (Jamaica), and should subsequently proceed to Tahiti via Panama Canal. CHEVREUIL will be sailing under the orders of the Free French Naval Authorities but Cs. in C. are requested to arrange for onward routeing and facilities. (A.C.N.S. F. 1059A/18 to C. in C. W.A)

GREENWICH.
FORTH.
SANDHURST.

GREENWICH will sail from the Clyde on 25/8 for St. Johns, Newfoundland, and it is understood that on arrival FORTH will return to U.K.
SANDHURST will leave Londonderry for the Clyde on 25/8. (C. in C. W.A 1258/18).

/KING.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

KING GEORGE V. Screened by 3 destroyers is to proceed passing Hoxa Boom at 2200A/20 to Rosyth. E.T.A. May Island 0700A/21. (C. in C. H.F. 1515A/18). Your 1515A/18th. Request KING GEORGE V may pass Beamer Rock at 1300/21 and thence proceed into Dockyard Basin. (C. in C. Rosyth 2201/18 to C. in C. H.F).

INGLEFIELD. Sail at 0800/19 to Scapa, adjusting speed to arrive before dark. Speed west of Elieness should not exceed 9 knots. (C. in C. Rosyth 1615/18 to INGLEFIELD).

D.S.10. (Clyde-Iceland ferry) WELLS and ST. MARY'S detailed for D.S.10. (R.A.M. 1823/18).

4th M.L. Flotilla. Presume 106th M.L. Flotilla will relieve 4th M.L. Flotilla and that latter will then return to the U.K. (A.C.I.C. 2107/18).

NIAGARA. Am proceeding Hvalsfjord (corrupt group) for oil. Will join you as soon as possible. (NIAGARA 2350Z/18 to BURWELL).

Operations.

Operation 'Gauntlet'. Admty. 2101A/17. Request you will sail Oiler OLIGARCH escorted by 4 trawlers to R/V in position AA (078° N. 009° 30' E. with Force A, (NIGERIA, AURORA and 3 Destroyers) at 1000A/24. (2) OLIGARCH is to be prepared to fuel H.M. Ships at sea. (C. in C. H.F. 0014A/18 to A.C.I.C.) Admty. 2101A/17 and your 0014A/18. Only one A/S Trawler available. Trawler situation here is as follows. (A.C.I.C. 0957Z/18 to C. in C. H.F).
Return to Scapa with despatch. (C. in C. H.F. 1024A/18 to AURORA).
My 0957Z/18. Intend sailing oiler OLIGARCH at 2000/18 escorted by A/S trawlers ELM (S.O) HAZEL, SEALYHAM and VAN-OOST routed through 070° 32' N. 008° 20' W. Reduction in patrols is being accepted to provide this escort. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1259Z/18 to C. in C. H.F).
W/T arrangements. (C. in C. H.F. 1807A/18).
See Operations Volume.
Your 0957Z/18 and Admty. 2101A/17. Request 4 trawlers be detailed and that they sail with oiler OLIGARCH as soon as practicable. Report E.T.A. in position A.A. if R/V with Force "A" cannot be made as in my 0014A/18. Oil burners preferably, but coal burners must be accepted if necessary. (C. in C. H.F. 1903A/18 to A.C.I.C)

/Request.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation 'Gauntlet'- Contd.

Request you take Force 'A' (NIGERIA, AURORA, ICARUS, ANTELOPE and ANTHONY) under your orders and carry out operation 'Gauntlet in accordance with Admiralty directive addressed S.O. Force 'A' only. (C. in C. H.F. 1923A/18 to S.O. Force A) (W/T arrangement) (C. in C. H.F. 2004A/18).

Dover shelled.

Gris Nez Batteries fired 8 rounds between 2317/17 and 2322/17 when C.W. 46 was between Dover and South Foreland. Two shells fell outside the harbour, six inland behind the Castle. No casualties reported. No E-boat activity, probably owing to weather. (V.A. Dover 0950A/18).

A/P Positions.

In Yarmouth and Lowestoft areas. Positions FP, FA, FL, and FY amended as follows as from Night 20/21 August. Details. (C. in C. Nore 1018A/18 and 1302A/18). See Summaries Folder.

Western Patrol. New Areas.

Nine new Patrol Areas, namely G.X.1, G.X. 2, G.X.3 H.X. 1, H.X. 2, H.X. 3, J.X. 1, J.X. 2 and J.X.3 established as follows. Details. (S.O.W.P. 1152A/18). See Summaries Folder.

Interception of Tanker. TUNA. SEAWOLF.

My 1959A/18. (a) Information graded B.3 that tanker (? ANKING) as a submarine supply ship will leave St. Nazaire between 28 and 30/8. (b) TUNA is to patrol near 45° 56' N. 6° 35' W. from 0600/28 until darkness 1st September, keeping clear to the westward of SEAWOLF's movements in paragraph (d).(c) If time permits before proceeding to this position TUNA is to visit S.E. corner of (corrupt group) at (corrupt group) zone with a view to attacking trade between Bayonne and Spanish Ports provided weather suitable. (d) SEAWOLF is to be sailed on 22/8 for patrol in Bay of Biscay North Zone, and is to leave that Zone in time to patrol near 45° 43' N. 5° 56' W. from 0600/28 until dark on 1st Sept. (F.O.S. 1959A/18).

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

'Stand' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0158/18).
'Fate'I' will be flown daily during daylight hours commencing to-day. (C. in C. Rosyth 0208/18).
P.R.U. Trondheim and Stavanger, 'Oslo' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1204/18).
My 0208/18. A/C returning with Engine trouble. (C. in C. Rosyth 1852/18).

/Firing.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Firing of Recognition Cartridge.

Your X.112 15/8. As far as can be ascertained no aircraft of 3 Group fired recognition signal at time and place stated. Unlikely any other group this Command involved. (H.Q.B.C. 1820/18 to Air Ministry).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C. 61. KINDERSLEY (British, 1999 Tons) damaged on 17/8.

Your 1620/1/7. At 2120-2145/17 KINDERSLEY damaged in Engine-Room by near miss 3 miles S.E. by E. of B.1. Buoy. 2 slight casualties. (N.O.I.C Blyth 0305A/18).

A/C destroyed by 13th M/S Group on 16/8.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth. Begins. S.O. Group 13 reports was attacked at 2125A/16 by a Junkers 88. It received a direct hit from 12 pounder of CHARLES DORAN and was hit heavily with small arms from all ships and point 5 from CLOTILDE. All C.O's saw A/C dive into sea. 1140A/18. Ends. (C. in C. Nore 1459A/18)

Convoy O.G. 71.

Help 'Clasp' in 50° 28' N. 17° 28' W. (Y Squadron. Recd. 1815/18).

New Torpedo A/C.

In addition to H.E. 111 it is believed that two new types of German aircraft H.E. 177 and D.O. 217 have been equipped for torpedo dropping and will shortly be in service.
It is hoped to promulgate description of these new types and information as to probable method of attack in the near future.
It is also possible, but not probable, that some Focke Wulf aircraft may also have been equipped for torpedo attack. (N.I.D. 2145A/18).

Convoy E.C.

Enemy bombing convoy 'Yield' in 56° 59' N. 1° 56' W. (CURACOA 2210/18).
Fighter protection is being sent. (Rosyth 2259/18)

Aberdeen bombed.

Enemy aircraft dropped bombs near gasworks at 2220. Small fire started, now out.
Enemy aircraft dropped 3 bombs near Torry Battery, 2 in sea one on shore. No casualties and no damage. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2250/18).

A/C washed.

German A/C believed Junker crashed into mountain on Boro Island 062° 18' N. 006° 32' W. at 1215A today. Machine and crew in fragments. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 2321A/18).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Fishguard. Two red mines detonated by single L Drifter 040° Fishguard main breakwater light 8 cables and 8.5 cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1455A/18)

Harwich QUORN damaged. At 0810/18 one Green Mine exploded in 51° 48.9' N. 1° 30.6' E. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1556A/18 Explosions occurred in following positions at 0810/18. (1) 51° 50.3' N., 1° 29.7' E.(2) 51° 53.7' N.1° 25.2' E. Presumed ground mines. No ships near. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1622A/18). Following received from QUORN begins. At 0756/18 in 044° B8 Buoy one mile, a mine exploded. Following damage so far apparent. Details. (C. in C. Nore, 1830A/18).

S.N.22B. Intend to lay on 23/8 with AGAMEMNON and NEWARK Position. (R.A.M., 1814/18) See Operations Volume. My 1814/18. Operations will necessitate NEWARK leaving Scapa about 2100/22. She will probably be required to return to port Z.A. on completion. (R.A.M., 1815/18 to R.A.D.F.H.F.)

Operation Q.L.1. (1) C. in C. Nore's 3415/0528A/13 of 17/7/41. Operation Q.L. (1) will be carried out by three M.L.'s of 1st Flotilla from BEEHIVE on 23/8 or first suitable day after. (C.in C. Nore 2214A/18).

Enemy Intelligence.

Warship reported. Unknown warship position 2 miles W.S.W. Hurlestone Point.(INCHGOWER 1144/18).

Casualties and Defects.

YORKSHIRE LASS (A/P Drifter). Reports water in engine-room. MAMMOUTH escorting. (MEYNELL 0925/18).

ACHATES (Mined 25/7). Anticipate ACHATES should be ready to sail on receipt first good weather report after 1200/21. Speed of tow 5 knots. Request A/S and air escort. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1302A/18).

Hartlepool My 1300/9. Ships of 46 ft. beam and 21 ft. draft may now enter Hartlepool 2 hours each side. of high water. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1335/18).

BOW WAVE. (Torpedo Recovery Drifter). Reports breaking blade of propellor when entering Anstruther Harbour at 2230 yesterday. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1646/18).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G. 72. — Estimate 1400/23 LEITH and corvettes of 30th Escort Group will bring back H.G. 72. Detailed instructions will be issued by F.O.C.N.A. (C. in C. W.A. 0021A/18 to LEITH etc.)

Outward Convoys. — Anticipated dates of sailing from Liverpool of outward bound convoys, O.N. 10 - 15, O.G. 73, O.S. 5 (C. in C. W.A., 1105A/18 to F.O.I.C's). See Lion Copy.

DUCHESS OF ATHOLL / WARWICK CASTLE. — DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, speed 17 knots, carrying 3,000 personnel will be ready to leave Clyde for Halifax on 26/8. At Halifax she will, after disembarking personnel for Canada, embark personnel at present in WARWICK CASTLE for onward passage to Capetown. Arrangements. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1755/18 to C. in C. W.A., etc.) My 1755A. Intended that DUCHESS OF ATHOLL should then proceed so as to join Convoy W.S.11, dependant on escort being available. C. in C. A.W.I. and C. in C.S.A. requested to report if they can arrange for A.M.C. or cruiser escort from Halifax. (D.O.D. (F) 1848A/18 to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A). Reply: C. in C. A.W.I. 1232/19.

W.S.11. — Date, list, escorts. (-A.C.N.S. (H) 1818A/18 to C. in C. W. A.) See Lion Copy.

"Cam" Ships. — It is desired to have a Cam ship with as many convoys as possible. When necessary a Cam Ship may be delayed to achieve this. (D.T.D. 1831A/18 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

W.S.10X. — Detach A/A and A/S escort as follows (1) WHITEHALL and WITCH are to remain with Convoy till prudent limits of endurance and then proceed Londonderry. (2) JACOB VAN HEEMSKERCK is to return North Channel in company WHITEHALL and WITCH and then proceed Belfast. (3) GURKHA, LANCE, PIORUN and ISAAC SWEERS are to leave convoy after dark 19/8 and return Clyde carrying out an A/S sweep for which further order will be signalled. (C. in C. W.A., 1905A/18 to DORSETSHIRE).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

16.8.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Operations

Yarmouth was bombed last night. No naval damage or casualties occurred.
Arbroath was bombed today. Lowestoft and Ramsgate were bombed this evening without naval damage except at Lowestoft where some damage and casualties were caused and tug NESS POINT was sunk in Waveney Dock.

At 1135 the A.B.V. NORTHERN SKY was attacked off the Faeroes resulting in slight damage and casualties. The plane jettisoned its bombs and flew off, and is believed to have been damaged.

At 2116 determined low-flying attacks by at least 6 aircraft were made on Convoy E.C. 61 in 52° 59' N., 1° 55' E. No apparent damage was caused to the convoy.
One enemy plane was destroyed by the combined fire of ships and escort, finally striking the balloon of SS NEPHRITE and crashing.
VALOROUS and VIMIERA each damaged one aircraft.*
VIMIERA reported that 4 enemy aircraft were attacking the rear of the convoy, but were driven off. * At 2146
SS SUNTRAP was slightly damaged but proceeded with the convoy.
M.S.Group 13 report having brought down a Ju.88 at 2125A today off Yarmouth.

South Atlantic

The Brazilian Minister for foreign affairs has assured our ambassador that in future no enemy refugee ships will be permitted to sail from Brazilian ports.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Patrol Areas.	Admty 1344B/16/7. 9 new areas established. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0049A/18 to F.O.C.N.A., S.O.W.P.) See Lion Copy.
French Shipping.	Passing Gibraltar, 15/8. (D.O.R., 18/8).
MARON, CAVINA.	A.T. 0049A/18. Request you will arrange for MARON to occupy H.X.3 and H.M.S. CAVINA H.Z.1. (H.X.1 ?). MARON will remain under operational control of F.O.C.N.A. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0113A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.).
CAVINA Funchal.	Your 1348A/16. No objection to this visit. (N.A. Lisbon, 1045/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)
ARK ROYAL.	Your 1724/15. Summary of more important defects in ARK ROYAL. With luck ship may carry on until mid November but this cannot be guaranteed. (S.O. Force H., 1121A/18 to Admty).
CAVINA, MARON.	CAVINA is to patrol area H.Z.1. MARON is to patrol area H.X.3. (F.O.C.N.A., 1144A/18 to CAVINA, MARON repeated 1650A/18).
French Shipping.	1115. CHELMA, ENDOME, OUED FES escort armed trawler W.62 passed Eastbound all laden. (V.A.C.N.A., 1140/18 to Admty).
MARIA LEONOR, with survivors.	My 1210/17, amend number of survivors to 14. At 1000/18 trawler was in 32° N., 13° 10'. (N.A. Lisbon, 1526/18 to Admty).
GUNDA (sunk 20/6 after A/C attack).	Chief Officer and second engineer of Swedish GUNDA leave by air 19/8. Suggest they should be closely questioned also Master of STARLING. Am not fully satisfied that all steps were taken to save the GUNDA.(N.C.S.O., Lisbon, 1655/18 to Admty).
CLYDE A/S Patrol.	My 1210A/17, departure CLYDE. (F.O.C.N.A., 1740A/18 to Admty).

/H.G.71.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

H.G.71 — Departure DEPTFORD, SAMPHIRE, CONVOLVULUS, MARIGOLD, AURICULA escorting H.G.71. Local escort WILD SWAN to be joined by VIMY A.M./23. ST. NECTAN until limit of prudent endurance unless otherwise ordered. (F.O.C.N.A., 1742A/18 to Admty. C. in C. W.A.)

O.23 — My position 2000/18 037° 59' 007° 16' E.T.A. 2000/20. Probably hit two ships in convoy on 16th Depth charged for three hours, hunted for nine, undamaged. (O.23 2330A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Spain. — 1. No relaxation in military activities in the Campo of Gibraltar.
2. Francisco Esponosa de Los Monteros y Dato, son of late Spanish Ambassador in Berlin, stated to our Military Attache, Lisbon, that from information he had Spain would be at war with Britain within three months.
(Governor, (Gen. Viscount Gort) No. T.O.O. 18 to .S. of S, for Colonies).

South Atlantic.

"Q" Report (cancelled). — Following has been read. Q Q Q Q 7° 29' N., 13° 32' W., NEW BRUNSWICK suspicious vessel following - 2350 G.M.T /17.
(Freetown W/T T.O.R. 0003Z/18). Following has been read QQQQ 7° 28' N., 13° 41' W., NEW BRUNSWICK suspicious vessel still following course 268° speed 10 knots. (Freetown W/T 0100G.M.T./18).
Following has been read . Cancel my 0100 G.M.T./18 (Freetown W/T 0140G.M.T./18 NEW BRUNSWICK, 0245/18)

Operation "Ration". — My 1123/17. Operations is to be abandoned if interception has not been effected east of 15° E. Track previously followed is given only as basis on which to operate in default of other information. (C. in C. S.A., 0056/18 to AUSTRALIA).
Durban arrival AUSTRALIA.
(N.L.O. Durban, 1435Z/18 to Admty etc).

/EAGLE.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

EAGLE W.S. 10 X.	Following is a repetition of my 1811N/16 (begins) EAGLE will be boiler cleaning at Freetown until 26/8 unless urgently required for other service. She will be ready to escort W.S. 10 X. (ends). (C. in C. S.A., 0429N/18 to Admty).
Troop Transport.	My 1845/1. After disembarkation at Lagos DUCHESS OF BEDFORD and SOBIESKI should return to U.K. as quickly as possible. DUCHESS OF BEDFORD will not be able to load any cargo. NIEUW ZEELAND will be used as detailed in my 1308/11. (D. of S.T., 1442A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)
NEW NORTHLAND (crew).	Desire to repatriate French Canadian crew of NEW NORTHLAND to Canada in CIRCASSIA if possible Can this be done direct or from Bermuda. (C. in C. S.A., 1127N/18 to C. in C. A.W.I.)
ALBATROSS.	17/8 ALBATROSS departed Simonstown for Capetown and after ranging on D.G. range departed at 1600 for St. Helena, Ascension and Freetown. S.of A 18 knots. E.T.A. St. Helena, 21/8. (F.O.I.C., Simonstown, 1155Z/18 to Admty etc).
Enemy M.Vs Prevention of Scuttling.	Admty 1943/1/5. Remarks on recent experiences. -(C. in C. S.A., 1341N/18 to Admty). See Lion Copy.
MAURETANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, ILE DE FRANCE.	Your 1233A/14. Reply re A/A armament. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1534Z/18 to Admty).
GASCON.	Vichy French ship GASCON reported to be bunkering at Lobite 18/8 may sail 19th northbound probably for Dakar. ALBATROSS proceed and endeavour to intercept subsequently proceeding to St. Helena to fuel. CILICIA is to sail from Takoradi when complete and endeavour to intercept adjusting movements so as to arrive St. Helena by 29/8. -(C. in C. S.A. 1555H/18 to CILICIA, ALBATROSS).
Oiling at Sea.	Reply to R.A.S.A.D.'s 1743Z/12. (D.T.S.D., 1715A/18) See Lion Copy.
NEWCASTLE.	E.T.A. Freetown 0600N/26. (R.A.S.A.D., 1748Z/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

/New C. in C.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

New C. in C.

Your 1951N/15. Agree as regards visit to West Africa. Consider visit to South Africa would be of value and request you will make necessary arrangements. Vice Adm. Willis E.T.A. Freetown 28/8 and Johannesberg on 6/9. He proposes to visit Capetown, Simonstown and Durban subsequently returning to Freetown. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1804A/18 to C. in C. S.A.)

PRIMULA, suspected sabotage.

My 0818/16. Inquiry has been held but minutes not yet received at Simonstown. N.L.O. Durban reports that suspicion attached to Ignatius C. Coetzee. Stoker 2nd Cl., R.N.V.R. (S.A.) who joined PRIMULA at Simonstown on 15/6 now removed from ship. (Details) (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1918A/18 to Admty).

C.F.2

N.O.I.C. Simonstown's 2323/16. Short title of convoy conveying Nigerian Brigade Durban to Lagos is C.F.2. (C. in C. S.A., 2051N/18 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown, etc).

OUED GROU (intercepted 31/7).

Description. Could only be used for coastal work and this is not recommended in neighbourhood of Vichy French territory, where she has previously been running as would be likely to lead to re-capture. Might be employed south of Lagos. (C. in C. S.A., 2209N/18, 2355N/18, to Admty, amended 1120N/19).

Reports.

Ref. A.L. M.06274/41 of 28/6. Request information if Admty have received (a) Report of S.O. of Escort MALAYA's 0108 of March 23 addressed Admty (b) Report of Cdre. of convoy, not received by C. in C. S.A. CANTON's report was not received by C. in C. until 9/5. An analysis of action of escorting corvettes compiled from report available will be forwarded. (C. in C. S.A., 2235N/18 to Admty).

S.S. GASCON.

GASCON at Lobito reported bunkering 18/8 CILICIA sailed from Freetown Takoradi 17/8, ordered to proceed from there to intercept then to St. Helena to arrive 29/8 ALBATROSS ordered to proceed from Simonstown to intercept thence to St. Helena for fuel. (C. in C. S.A., 2307N/18 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units.

Small merchant ship and tanker due shortly from Tripoli (Libya). (S.O.(S), Malta, 0324B/18 to TETRARCH).
One merchant vessel one (?Escort Vessel) P.C. and S. of enemy Lampedusa - 008 - 2.
(A/C "Q" Sqn. 0636/18 to Hal Far).
5 Destroyers (61 VOKO 20-35A) 36.12 N., 11.40 E.
(A/C "Z" Sqdn., 0740/18).
My 0740 36.12 N., 12.00 E. 6.
(A/C F. "Z" Sqdn., 0820/18).
6 Merchant ships, 5 destroyers 036° 12' 012° 00' 350° at 0740B/18.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 0805B/18 to UPHOLDER).
P.C. and S. of enemy, one E boat 2 motor vessels 2000 tons, 38.17 N., 16.43 E., 09 course 030° Speed 8 knots. (Malta W/T, 0814/18 to Whitehall W/T).
6 destroyers escorting 3 large 17½ knot merchant ships expect to pass Marettimo about 1500/19 southbound. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1105B/18 to UPHOLDER).
4 Destroyers, 5 merchant vessels, 306° Tripoli 56' 130° 6. (A/C Duty X. 1216/18 to Med., Stn).
See also 1401/18.

HOTSPUR, DECOY.

Sail HOTSPUR and DECOY to arrive Beyrout a.m./20 (C. in C. Med., 1004C/18 to HOBART).

Transport Question.

Re relationship between Sir Henry Barker, M.W.T. Representative, and P.S.T.O. Egypt. (C. in C. Med.,1124C/18 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Suez Canal Mining.

C. in C. Med., 1850C/25/7 Part 3.
(b) The last mining raid on Canal was on morning of 8/7. Sweeping is still in progress over reported mine at kilos158.8. All other reported mines now considered false reports or exploded bombs. In Suez Bay sweeping continues on only 2 remaining mines reported.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1138C/18 to Admty).

ADRIA.

Your 0620/13. and 1118/16. Consider ADRIA is too large for this service. For future reference can you tell me speed, cargo capacity and particulars of Derricks? (C. in C. Med., 1147C/18 to C. in C. E.I.) Reply, 0554/21.

REGENT explosion.

Air vessel 21 inch mark (viii) two star R.N. Torpedo Factories 1377 exploded on board REGENT p.m./17 while lying in trench as reload for six tube. No casualties.
(Capt. S.1. 1226C/18 to Admty).

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Operation TREALE (?TREACLE)

Serial 1. JERVIS, KIMBERLEY, HASTY. Times and route, Alexandria to Tobruk.*
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1258/18 to S.O. Force "I" etc).*Code Word 'Loose' throughout.

UNIQUE

Convoy at 1216B/18, 306° Tripoli 56' 130° 8 knots. Proceed with despatch to 033° 00' 013° 03'.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1401B /18 to UNIQUE).

URGE. Enemy Convoy.

Add to my 2133B/17 URGE to 037° 09' 011° 58'.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1527B/18 to Capt. S.1.)

Enemy Convoy.

Convoy 360° Tripoli 5.
(Med. A/C Duty "Q", 1540/18 to Hal Far).

Enemy M.V.

P.C. and S. of enemy (one Merchant Vessel) are 270 Tripoli (?10) 270 9.
(Med., A/C duty "Q" 1545/18 to Hal Far).
My 1545 Enemy previously reported are of type indicated 3000. (Med., A/C "Q" 1550/18 to Hal Far).

Gerbini, Tripoli, bombed.

Night 17/18 Fulmar patrolled Catania and Gerbini Aerodromes. No aircraft seen. Bombs dropped Gerbini, result not seen. 4 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 0315 to 0430 hours.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/18).

A/C attack on Enemy Convoy 17/8.

7 Swordfish attacked Southbound convoy 5 M.V.s 1 tanker 6 drs. 20 miles W. Lampion.
2045 hours. 1 M.V. 8000 tons hit by torpedo and bombs, sank, crew seen 2 hours later abandoning ship which was then almost awash. DR's taking survivors aboard. Second M.V.9,000 tons hit by torpedo and subsequently beached off Lampedusa. Third ship a tanker 6,000 tons hit by torpedo forward causing huge explosion which lit up sky 2 hours later tanker had stopped and was still on fire with volumes of black smoke coming from it. Shadower observed the general confusion gun fire was directed anywhere wildly and without any consideration.
Day 18/8. 2 Blenheims attacked 9,000 ton M/V with deck cargo M.T. Beached Lampedusa. 1 Blenheim scored 1 hit with 250 lb bombs setting fire to ship. Second Blenheim endeavoured to attack half an hour later but ship was covered with volumes of smoke and on fire so pilot attacked a 2 masted Schooner unsuccessfully. Pilot of aircraft scoring hit slightly wounded. A.A. on run in to target and later attacked by 4 fighters. Aircraft from all these operations returned safely.
(H.Q. Malta, 1601/18).

/Fighter.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

18.8.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Fighter protection.

Priorities Tuesday 19/8. A.M. first (corrupt Group) Second JACKAL and KINGSTON as laid down in my 1614/16th.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1615C/18 to 201 Group)
My 1615/18 (Fighter protection priorities) Cancel (? Dodecanese) and give A.M. priority to JACKAL and KINGSTON.
(R.A. Alexandria, 2320C/18 to N.O. Tobruk, etc).

ORONSAY.

Your 2045/15 and P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1305/12 and 1150/16. Not clear whether the proposal to use ORONSAY will not involve a further escorted sailing from Suez to U.K. Request report. (D.O.D. (F) 1756A/18 to C. in C. Med). Reply 2331/19.

2 Beaufort Squadrons.

Request I may be informed of prospect of arrival of two Beaufort Squadrons destined Middle East. A.O.C. in C. informed me on 4/7 that they were expected. I consider arrival of these squadrons a matter of urgency.
(C. in C. Med., 1907/18 to Admty).

THORBRYN A/C attack.

Following has been read. Alexandria W/T from THORBRYN 20 aircraft (20 A.P.) help 32.06 N - 25.33 E. (Nore W/T 1925/18).(T.O.R.,1745/18).

THRASHER.

Proceed forthwith to establish patrol in area F. 035° 52' 023° 12' 4 miles 340° - 40 - 35, concentrating on Elaphonisos Channel.
(Capt. S.1. 1935C/18 to THRASHER).

HOTSPUR, PERSEUS.

HOTSPUR leaves Alexandria 2230C/18 for Haifa. Delete from my 0925C/18 all references to PERSEUS.
(Capt. S.1., 1950C/18 to S/M NEREUS).

JACKAL A/C attack.

Following received Addressed Alexandria W/T from JACKAL. 10 aircraft bearing 200° 8 miles my position 280 32° N., 26° E.17(Nore W/T, 2000/18).

Situation Report No. 121.

Western Desert. Determined dive bombing attacks on Tobruk during daylight/17. Some lighters sunk but no damage to lighters or schooners unloading. JU 87 brought down by U.P. on 15th. Wellingtons attacked Benghazi Harbour night 15/16 and Albacores with Blenheims attacked U-boat reported Bardia, result unknown.
(C. in C. Med., 2306C/18 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

War Diary

18.8.1941.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Gunboats — Can any of gunboats at present on your station be spared for Persian Gulf? In view of developments in Iraq and Persia these could be most usefully employed. (C. in C. E.I., 0802Z/18 to C. in C. China)

French Somaliland. — Information from pro British captain of hospital launch which was allowed to enter Obok to convey sick to Jibuti (S.N.O. Red Sea 0845Z/18)

China

Vladivostok Mission. — C.O.I.S. Singapore 0526Z/29/7. Following for F.O. and Chiefs of Staff from C. in C. Far East and China. Nearly two months have elapsed since first proposal of D.N.I. to establish a Mission in Vladivostok was endorsed by C. in Cs Far East and China. If no decision yet reached request matter be taken up urgently by British Mission to Moscow. (C. in C. China 0506Z/18 to Admty.)

FRANCOIS L.D. (French) — Left 14/8 Kobe 17/8. (Saigon 0749Z/18 to M. of W.T.)

MARECHAL JOFFRE (French) — Departure Shanghai 21st. (N.C.S.O. Manila 0755Z/18 to M. of W.T.)

SCOUT — (?Hong Kong) arrival SCOUR from operation. (S.O.I. Singapore, 1007Z/18 to Admty. etc.)

TEGELBERG — Have you any news of Dutch TEGELBERG from Mauritius due Batavia 6/8? (D.T.D. 1320A/18 to S.O.I. Singapore) (Reply 0401Z/19)

Reel K-6-B

Admiralty War Diaries:—

1/7/41 to 30/9/41

cont on Reel K-7-B.

ENDING OF

REEL K-6-B

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O.N.I

DATE: April 15th, 1946

MACH. NO. 475

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